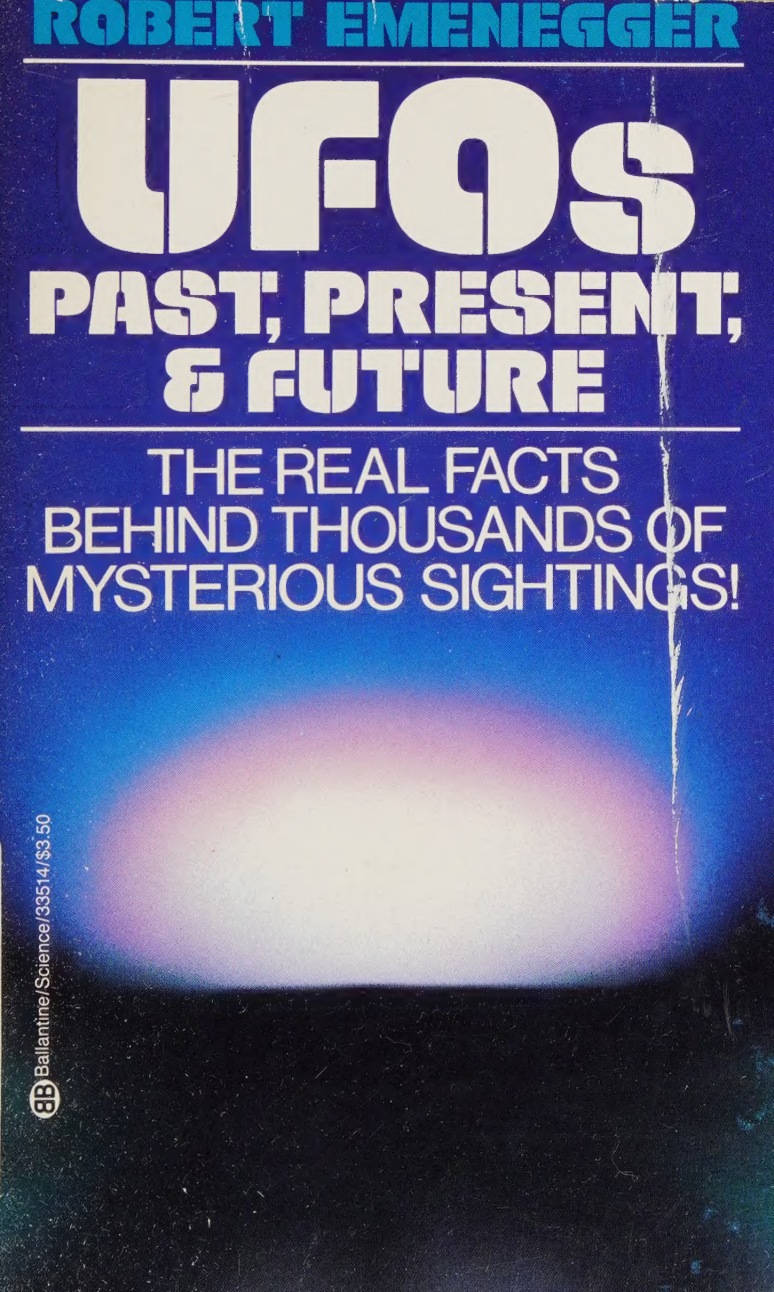
ROBERT EMENEGGER

UFOs
PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE

THE REAL FACTS BEHIND THOUSANDS OF MYSTERIOUS SIGHTINGS!



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Sighted on the ground! By State Highway Patrolman Lonnie Zamorra in Socorro, New Mexico . . .

A shiny aluminum-like object, whitish against a moss background, with a strange insignia . . .

Two people were standing beside it; they seemed startled at the sight of an intruder . . .

Then a flash of blue flame and a roar, as the object flew over him . . .

There were pod marks on the ground where it stood, and the surrounding brush was charred!

UFOs
PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE

Robert Emenegger

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PREFACE

Man . . . who is he? Where is he? Why is he here? Isolated in space on a round mass of matter, live several billion intelligent beings: man . . . but what is his origin?

Some say he evolved from the slime of the sea; others, that a God created an Adam and Eve and man is their descendant. Yet others speculate that he was brought here some time in the distant past when the earth was colonized by men from another, dying, planet. Despite the theories and speculations, the answer remains an enigma.

As to where he is—that's easier. A planet some eight thousand miles in diameter located in the far portion of a galaxy—somewhere . . . somewhere in infinite space.

Why is he here? Despite all the religious theorizing and the speculations of the philosophers, that, too, remains unsolved. Occupied by his daily affairs, man finds little time to contemplate such questions for himself—except maybe . . . for a moment, on a clear night, when he pauses and looks to the star-filled heavens, and in the back of his mind stirs an unresolvable question . . . He searches his thoughts for that lost clue, an explanation, a hint—some key to the faint, forgotten race-memory of his past. And perhaps at that very moment, somewhere else in the universe, on a distant planet similar to his own, somewhere on the other side of the galaxy . . . other intelligent beings wonder, too . . . and they set out in vehicles on an adventure through space to search for their answers. Could that be the explanation for the unexplained

phenomena that earth-man has been seeing in the skies over the past several centuries?

What you are about to read is based on fact. Some will find it frightening, some will find it fascinating, but it is all true, all factual . . .

Special thanks are due to NASA and the Department of Defense for their cooperation, for without their help the information would have been difficult to prepare and present.

Because the UFO phenomenon seems so far outside the laws of logic and present scientific knowledge, it can easily be categorized as ridiculous, crackpot stuff; we're more apt to find it referred to in sensational headlines on page one of tabloids than in respected scientific journals.

To add credibility to this subject and to avoid speculations, the material presented in this book was carefully selected, researched, documented, rechecked, and often quoted directly from the original U.S. government case histories. Most of the cases that follow were taken from official Air Force files investigated by intelligence officers within the government, from other intelligence reports, and with the cooperation of NASA and the Department of Defense.

The reason for setting up these parameters was to give the reader an objective, factual, and unsensationalized picture of this phenomenon—a phenomenon that in itself, when studied and evaluated, contains such revolutionary concepts that it has the potential of changing man's idea about himself and his relationship to the universe.

It may also be of interest to the reader that the material presented here was not compiled by a UFO hobbyist or flying-saucer buff. On the contrary, until early 1973, when I saw the documents that form the basis of this book, I was a skeptic. I was a skeptic who felt that stories of UFOs were the result of wishful thinking, a fantasy that somehow found roots and substance in that naive, impressionable, and blindly hopeful nature of man.

Once exposed to the facts, even if you were a disbeliever, you cannot help but have new and probably different feelings about the subject. The evidence supporting the existence of this unexplainable phenomenon is overwhelming.

UFOs
PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE

I

PAST

1. ANCIENT SIGHTINGS

Is this UFO phenomenon something unique to twentieth-century America? Apparently not, for records of the past seem to make continual references to objects seen in the night skies—Biblical visions, phantom ships, with mysterious lights.

One of the earliest and most often cited records is the story of Ezekiel's wheel. It so intrigued one NASA engineer that he wrote an entire book based on these passages from the Bible. His thesis was built around the great similarity he found between the description of an object seen by Ezekiel and the design of a spacecraft tested by NASA Research Center at Langley Field in the 1960s. The passage is imprecise, but the inferences are there—enough to get a feeling for what Ezekiel may have seen. Let's turn to the first chapter of *Ezekiel,* in the King James version:

> "Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, in the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the river of Chebar, that the heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. . . .
>
> Out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures . . . they had the likeness of a man. . . .

> Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures. . . .
>
> The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the color of a beryl: and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel. . . .
>
> And when they went, they went upon their four sides: and they turned not when they went.
>
> As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round them four.
>
> And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up.

This account took place nearly six hundred years before Christ; other, similar, accounts appear in earlier writings. The Greeks and Romans also wrote of such things as phantom chariots appearing in the night sky.

During the reign of Charlemagne, there were many accounts of encounters with "tyrants of the air, and their aerial ships." These accounts so concerned Charlemagne that those reporting such strange phenomena were subject to torture and death.

The record of one event, written in the late eighth or early ninth century in France, was located by historian Dr. Jacques Vallee:

> One day, among other instances, it chanced at Lyons that three men and a woman were seen descending from these aerial ships. The entire city gathered about them, crying out they were magicians sent by Charlemagne's enemy to destroy the French harvest.
>
> In vain, the four innocents sought to vindicate themselves, saying they were their own country folk

and had been carried away a short time since by miraculous men who had shown them unheard-of marvels. Luckily, the Bishop of Lyons pronounced the incident as false, saying it was not true these men had fallen from the sky, and what they [the town folks] said they had seen there was impossible. The people believed what their good Bishop said rather than their own eyes and set at liberty the four ambassadors . . . from the ship.

During the Middle Ages, similar experiences were recorded around the world. From Bristol, England, in the year 1270 A.D., comes one such account. A spaceship was seen, and it was said that its occupant scampered down a ladder, and was stoned and asphyxiated in the earth's atmosphere.

Along these lines, Jacques Vallee, in his *Passport to Magonia,* tells us of Drake's and Wilkin's account of a similar incident that took place about 1211 A.D. This Irish story describes the event in some detail:

There happened in the borough of Cloera, one Sunday, while the people were at Mass, a marvel. In this town is a church dedicated to St. Kenerus. It befell that an anchor was dropped from the sky, with a rope attached to it, and one of the flukes caught in the arch above the door. The people rushed out of the church and saw in the sky a ship with men on board, floating before the anchor cable, and they saw a man leap overboard and jump down to the anchor, as if to release it. He looked as if he were swimming in water. The town folk rushed up and tried to seize him; but the Bishop forbade the people to hold the man, for it might kill him, he said. The man was freed, and

hurried up to the ship, where the crew cut the rope and the ship sailed out of sight.

Other accounts similar to this one were recorded in Gervase of Tilbury's *Otia Imperialia,* as having taken place in Gravesend, Kent, England.

If we turn to Vallee again, he gives us a short history course on objects in the skies over Japan during the Middle Ages. According to Vallee:

> Panics, riots, and disruptive social movements were often linked to celestial apparitions.
>
> Numerous examples of such situations can be quoted. For instance, on September 12, 1271, the famous priest Nichiren was about to be beheaded at Tatsunokuchi, Kamakura, when there appeared in the sky an object like a full moon, shiny and bright. Needless to say, the officials panicked and the execution was not carried out.
>
> On August 3, 989, during a period of great social unrest, three round objects of unusual brilliance were observed; later they joined together. In 1361, a flying object described as being "shaped like a drum, about twenty feet in diameter" emerged from the Inland Sea off Western Japan. On January 2, 1458, a bright object resembling the full moon was seen in the sky, and this apparition was followed by "curious signs" in heaven and earth. People were "amazed." Two months later, on March 17, 1458, five stars appeared, circling the moon. They changed color three times and vanished suddenly. The rulers were utterly distressed and believed that the sign announced a great disturbance throughout the land. All the people in Kyoto were expecting disasters to follow, and the

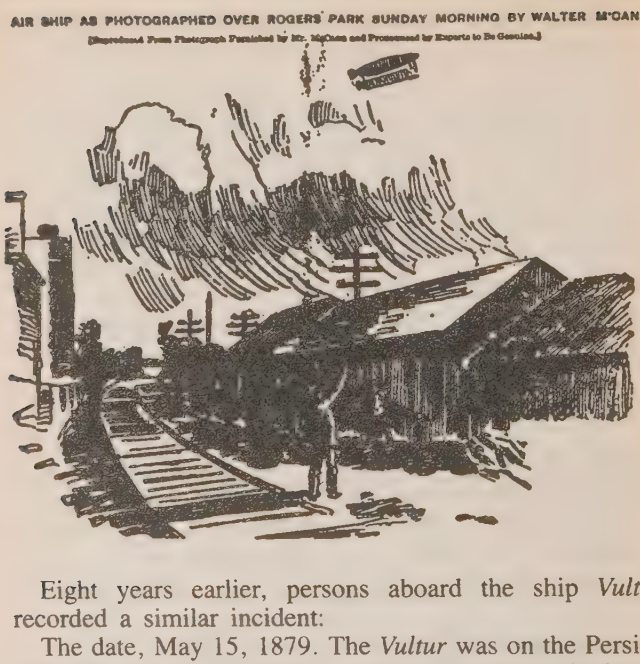
emperor himself was very upset. Ten years later, on March 8, 1468, a dark object, which made a "sound like a wheel," flew from Mt. Kasuga toward the west at midnight. The combination of the sound and the darkness of the flying object is difficult to explain in natural terms.

On January 3, 1569, in the evening, a flaming star appeared in the sky. It was regarded as an omen of serious changes, announcing the fall of the Chu Dynasty. Such phenomena continued during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. For instance, in May, 1606, fireballs were continuously reported over Kyoto, and one night a whirling ball of fire resembling a red wheel hovered near the Nijo Castle and was observed by many of the samurai. The next morning the city was filled with rumors and the people muttered: "This must be a portent."

One noon in September, 1702, the sun took on a bloody color several days in succession and cottonlike threads fell down, apparently falling from the sun itself—phenomena reminiscent of the 1917 observations in Fatima, Portugal.

Navy journals are also filled with strange accounts of objects observed. The brief accounts will give you a sample of what was observed.

The date was November 12, 1887; the time was near midnight. Aboard the sailing ship *Siberian,* several people witnessed a huge sphere of fire. It was observed rising out of the ocean. It rose to an altitude of sixteen meters, then flew against the wind and came close to the ship, then "dashed off" toward the southeast. The sighting lasted for a full five minutes.



Eight years earlier, persons aboard the ship *Vultur* recorded a similar incident:

The date, May 15, 1879. The *Vultur* was on the Persian Sea. Two very large "wheels" were seen spinning in the air and coming to the surface of the sea. Some estimated the diameter as sixty meters, others as twice that; the speed was about fifty miles an hour. Duration of the sighting was thirty-five minutes.

In 1896 and 1897, mysterious airships were reported all across the United States. In Oakland, California, a group of streetcar passengers reported a winged cigar that sent out a stream of bright light. The sightings spread through Colorado, Texas, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, and many other states, particularly in the Midwest. On April 11, 1897, Walter McCann of Rogers Park, a few miles north of Chicago, took a photograph of an airship. The New York *Herald,* as well as the Chicago *Tribune,* pronounced the plate "genuine and not a fake."

2. GLOBAL CASES

Although the United States has had its share of UFO sightings, we are not the only country to record this phenomenon. In fact, there is evidence to suggest that the United States has fewer sightings than some other countries. Worldwide statistics on the number of sightings are difficult to round up and incomplete. Most other countries looked to the United States Air Force to investigate UFOs and did not keep records of their own local sightings. Therefore, we can give only a rough approximation of the number of sightings and the dates of sighting waves around the world, based on reports of private UFO organizations in the United States. The available facts sketch a fascinating picture of possible extraterrestrial visitations around the world.

Reports of UFO sightings before the nineteenth century are often filled with unsubstantial information. The further back we go, the less dard data there is to work with, and the more we are forced to speculate. Before the mid-nineteenth century, most nonscholars would probably have thought that any unusual circumstance in the sky was a religious experience.

Many UFO researchers point to the "miracle of Fatima," which occurred in Portugal in 1917, as a perfect example of ascribing religious connotations to a possible UFO sighting. Although controversial, the sighting's circumstances were

interesting. An assembled crowd of people, having been told by three little girls that the Virgin Mary would appear on a certain date and at a certain location, witnessed what they described as "the sun" moving out of its position, coming close to the earth, wobbling, moving to and fro, and then retreating back to its original position. The "miracle" occurred in 1917 with thousands of witnesses, but UFO researchers, historians of religion, and the Catholic Church have not been able to prove exactly what *did* happen that day, and the controversy continues.

If a twentieth-century European sighting can stir debate and controversy, then discovering the facts of earlier sightings of aerial apparitions is virtually impossible. The researcher has to rely on speculation and guesswork, simply because he is ignorant of the facts. The more facts he has, the less he has to rely on speculation. Consequently, sightings of unusual objects in the sky in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries can be verified much more easily.

The first wave of European UFO sightings that we know of occurred in England in 1909. The British reported seeing objects shaped like dirigibles and equipped with strong searchlights, and that performed technologically advanced maneuvers (sharp turns, hovering, etc.). There were even reports of landings and occupants.[1] These reports were similar to a wave of sightings in America in 1896–1897.

The next wave of UFO sightings came in the early 1930s, when reports of mysterious "ghost fliers" in northern Sweden prompted a lively debate in the Swedish press about which pilot was crazy enough to circle a town for hours in a snowstorm without attempting to land, among other foolhardy activities. The "airplanes" that were sighted seemed of "normal" configuration for the time, but their lack of identifying markings, their unusual flight behavior, the beams of light reported to emanate from them, their

apparent lack of intent to land, and the inability of the Swedish authorities to identify any of the planes or their pilots after a thorough investigation, all place these sightings squarely in the realm of unidentified flying objects.[2]

In World War II, strange phenomena occurred in both the Pacific and Atlantic theaters of war. Objects known as "foo fighters" caused considerable discussion and anxiety among Allied bomber and fighter pilots. The "foo fighters" were round glowing objects which chased, paced, "played tag with," or circled bombers and fighter planes. Some of the objects were undoubtedly what sailors and astrophysicists call St. Elmo's fire, but many of the sightings were of actual objects that displayed no characteristics of St. Elmo's fire and remain unexplained. These objects would come toward a plane from off in the distance, follow for some time, and finally veer off and leave the area. At first the Allies thought the objects were either German or Japanese secret weapons, depending on where they were seen. But when the objects did not seem hostile, the Allies began to think they were psychological weapons sent up to exasperate Allied pilots. After the war, it was learned that the Germans and the Japanese thought the objects were American secret weapons.[3]

Swedish "ghost rocket" sightings started in 1946. Thousands of witnesses observed rocket-like objects streaking through the air. The objects followed flat trajectories, and no artifacts or crashed "rockets" were ever found. The United States sent General Doolittle to Sweden to help investigate the sightings, because the Americans felt that the objects might be Russian secret weapons sent from Finland or from the captured German rocket proving ground at Peenemünde. Eventually, the Swedish government decided that, since there were no crashed rockets, the

sightings must be considered misidentifications of natural phenomena or the results of mass hallucination.

In 1947, the American wave of twentieth-century sightings began. Since these sightings, the world has been continually involved with the UFO enigma.[4]

UFO sightings occur in waves. The largest and most intense European wave of sightings, and quite possibly the largest wave of UFO sightings ever, took place in France in 1954. These French sightings produced an abundance of reports of landings and occupants—the most recorded for a single area. They were thoroughly investigated by the leading European UFO researcher, Aimé Michel. His two books, published in America as *The Truth About Flying Saucers* and *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*, are considered classics in the field. In *Flying Saucers and the Straight Line Mystery*, Michel posited the existence of "grid lines" around the world. He felt that the reports of UFOs could be concentrated along these grid lines, although not necessarily chronologically. In other words, UFOs might be sighted within a mile of a straight line across France at different times, even as much as a year apart. He called his theory "orthotony," and this idea has been recently developed by University of Colorado psychologist David Saunders, whose statistical studies of orthotony have shown that Michel's work might be of great significance.

Recently, France has been having a full-scale scientific debate about UFOs, prompted by the appearance in scientific journals of two articles on the subject by leading French scientists. The furor has led to speculation that the French government is now sponsoring a discreet, low-keyed study of UFOs. In late 1973 and early 1974, there was another heavy wave of UFO sightings in France, and the debate continues.

* * *

Latin America is the international leader in sightings. Brazil, probably because of the size of the country, accounts for the majority of Latin American UFO reports, followed by Argentina, Chile, Peru, Venezuela, and Uruguay. The tremendous number of sightings that these countries have recorded has led to a much more casual acceptance by the general populace of the idea of extraterrestrial visitation. That is not to say, however, that the scientific and academic community takes the subject seriously; there is still a tremendous stigma attached to the scientific study of UFOs in all countries.

In Brazil, recently, a potentially significant case occurred and is still under investigation. Sensational and bizarre as it seems, it falls into a definite pattern of UFO close-encounter-physical-effect cases, and it has circumstantial evidence to increase its credibility. Nonetheless, the careful investigator cannot make a judgment on this case until all the facts have been thoroughly checked. This case was filed with the Aerial Phenomena Research Organization by Brazilian UFO investigator Mrs. Irene Granchi.[5] The case begins in a routine manner. At about 3:00 A.M. on May 22, 1973, Onilson Papero—forty-one years old, married, two daughters; Organizer of Pulic Libraries for the State of São Paulo, Brazil—was driving to his home in Catanduva. He had dropped off a hitchhiker a few miles north of the town. It was raining that night, and Papero was traveling around 55 miles per hour. His radio was on, and as he approached the slope of a hill, the radio began to fade. He turned it on and off to try to steady it. At the same time, his car engine started to sputter and miss, so he geared down to second for more power.

As soon as he had done this he looked over and saw a

bright blue circle of light, about 20 centimeters in diameter, inside the car. The light moved slowly across his instrument panel, across the seat, a locked suitcase (which contained personal papers), the car floor, and Papero's legs. When the light was on the instrument panel, Papero had the impression of being able to see right through the circle of light to the engine. Puzzled, he immediately began to search for "normal" answers to this abnormal circumstance by wondering how the moon could present such a strange optical illusion. Then he remembered that there was no moon that night because of the rain and clouds.

As he was thinking this, he suddenly noticed a bright blue luminous line of light directed at him from the top of the hill he was going up. The origin of the light seemed to be rapidly approaching and growing brighter. Papero immediately thought that this must be a truck coming towards him; he pulled off to the shoulder of the road and flashed his lights at the truck to help prevent a collision. The light, however, was unaffected and continued to approach his car. So, anticipating an accident, he took off his glasses and bent down in the car, shielding his head with his arms and hands.

He stayed like this for a moment and then, realizing that the truck had not passed, looked up and immediately saw an object hovering about thirty-five feet in the sky and fifty feet away from him. This must be a helicopter in the process of landing, Papero thought. He began to feel very hot and stuffy; he needed air. He opened the door and got out of the car for relief, but it was just as hot outside, with the same sensation of the lack of adequate air.

He looked up again and heard a buzzing sound. At this point Papero realized that he was not observing a helicopter. The object looked like "two upside-down soup plates" about twenty-five feet thick and thirty-six feet wide. It was dull-dark grey, but Papero could not make out structural

details. The entire area was illuminated, but Papero could not see the source of the light. He still felt the heat and stuffiness. As he watched the object, he noticed a "transparent curtain" slowly encircling the object from the right side to the left. When it completely encircled the object, the sensation of heat and lack of air ended. As this occurred, a "tube" came out of the object's bottom and stretched toward the ground.

The thought suddenly went through Papero's mind that he might be kidnapped. He panicked and began to run away from the object into the woods. He had run about a hundred feet when he felt something was holding him back. It was like a "rubber lasso" around him. He frantically tried to get away from the thing holding him back by waving his arms in back of him, but when he did this he found that there was nothing physical behind him.

He turned and looked back at his car. A "blue tube-like torch of light" about seven inches in diameter was coming from the bottom of the object's "brim." When the light struck Papero's car, it seemed to become transparent. He claimed to be able to see the engine, the seats, and all other parts of his car. Papero's mind raced. Unable to grasp what he was seeing, he automatically began to think "mundane" thoughts—his car might be "melted," and he had not finished the payments on it yet. Either because what he saw was too much for his mind to accept or because of a physical reason, Papero fainted.

An hour later, two young men in their early twenties drove by in their Volkswagen station wagon. They saw Papero lying face down in the rushing water created by the rain. They saw the car with its headlights on and the right front door open; thinking that there had possibly been a murder or assault, they did not stop but drove straight

through to Catanduva. When they arrived, they went directly to a policeman and told him what they had seen.

The officer went with them back to the scene. When they arrived at around 5:00 A.M., Papero was still lying unconscious in the rain. They found a road map of northern Brazil on the ground in front of the car. Inside the car they discovered that Papero's suitcase was now open, with the contents—checks, photographs, papers, etc.—strewn about inside the car. They went over to examine Papero and found no evidence of wounds on him. They turned him over and Papero regained consciousness.

When he awoke he was panicky and began to struggle with the three men, probably believing them to be the kidnappers. When he was calmed he told them what had happened and confirmed the fact that the map, checks, papers, and photographs had been inside his locked suitcase and the key was still in his pocket. Nothing had been stolen, and his car operated normally. The officer took Papero to a local hospital in Catanduva. He spent the day there under observation but nothing appeared to be wrong, so the doctor sent him home that evening after prescribing a sedative.

That same afternoon, however, while Papero was still in the hospital, he noticed a slight itch on his back and stomach. The next day, the skin areas that had itched began to turn into irregularly shaped, painless, purplish-blue spots. They were large and especially visible on his buttocks and hips. Later, the spots began to turn yellowish—much like bruises. Papero eventually went to São Paulo to undergo a complete medical examination. Dr. Max Berezonski conducted the examination and stated that Papero's mental attitude and ability to relate to his environment were normal. After running a battery of tests on Papero—including a glucose count, potassium, sodium, urea, bilirubin, phosphorus, calcium, hemoglobin coagulating

period, and bloodletting, and a biopsy of the affected skin areas—the physician could find nothing to physically account for the spots. The physician also took an electroencephalogram, which was normal.

Later, two regressive hypnotic sessions revealed information about what had happened to Papero while he was unconscious. At this date, however, that information has not yet been made public. Although a highly unusual and rare case, it can be seen as fitting a pattern of worldwide close-encounter cases and might be paralleled in the United States by the celebrated Barney and Betty Hill case in 1961.

The Soviet Union also has had an interest in UFOs. In 1966, it had one of its first massive UFO sighting waves. Although details are incomplete, it appears that the government lent its support to a study of the phenomenon by Soviet astronomer F. U. Zigel. Zigel was enthusiastic about the study and even made public statements to the effect that the UFOs might be extraterrestrial. However, before the study could be mounted, the Soviet government mysteriously withdrew its support and abruptly it ended.

Perhaps one of the most vivid and strangest occupant cases occurred in Boinani, New Guinea, in 1959. The witnesses were Reverend William B. Gill, his assistants, and the entire student body of a missionary school—about twenty-seven witnesses.

Reverend Gill and the people of the area had been seeing what they called "talley lights" or lanterns hanging in the sky practically every night for several weeks before the main sighting. There had even been some daytime sightings beforehand. On June 27, 1959, Reverend Gill was implored to come outside and observe the strange object hanging in the air a few hundred yards away from the school house.

Gill and his assistants went outside and saw an oval-shaped object with landing gear. There was a platform on top of it—something like an observation deck. The object rose and left the area.

The next day the object returned. This time it slowly lowered to the ground as the astounded witnesses looked on from about fifty yards away. As it lowered, the witnesses noticed "men" walking on the platform on top of the object. They seemed preoccupied with some task—as if they were repairing something. As one occupant worked, the other occupant looked at Reverend Gill and the other observers. Spontaneously, Reverend Gill waved his arms above his head to signal the UFO occupants. Suddenly, the occupant waved *his* arms above his head as if he were either reciprocating the movement or signaling also. Reverend Gill repeated the gesture and so did the occupant. Then all the witnesses began to wave their arms and the occupant waved his arms again. Finally the object raised up and flew straight off into the sky.

Later Reverend Gill questioned each witness to verify the facts of the sighting, took measurements in an attempt to determine the size of the object and the occupants, and the distance they were from the witnesses. His lengthy, well-reasoned, and well-researched report constitutes one of the most famous and best-documented Pacific cases.[6]

In late 1972 and early 1973, UFO sightings were reported in Africa (particularly South Africa), Latin America, Eastern Europe, Canada, and Australia.

The wave of sightings in Africa was highlighted when President Amin of Uganda and scores of witnesses saw a "spectacular object" covered with something like "smoke" come down from the sky, splash into a lake, and then emerge from the lake and fly straight up and out of sight. President Amin decided this was of great significance and a

good luck sign. He urged all the witnesses of the event to attend prayers.[7]

No matter where people report UFO sightings, all the reports share common features. They fall into narrowly defined, established patterns. The human mind is capable of imagining a virtual infinity of objects to fly through the sky. This does not happen. Although one of the interesting aspects of the UFO phenomenon is the great variety of sizes and shapes that people report, these people do *not* see apartment houses with wings, upside-down elephants, chairs, three-hundred-foot-long mosquitoes, or television sets winging their way across the sky. They *do* see basically geometric objects self-illuminated or with lights attached. They see objects with strange configurations and difficult-to-describe colors. They see these objects performing maneuvers which appear to be either controlled or random. They see these objects at various altitudes in the sky. Sometimes they see these objects at low levels or on the ground. When on or near the ground some people claim to see "occupants" of these objects. Sometimes there are physical effects, as in the Brazilian case. Sometimes the objects leave markings on the ground after they have landed and taken off.

Whatever the case, the foreign cases are exactly the same as the American cases, regardless of whether the sightings occur in large cities, rural areas, industrial nations, developing nations, or Pacific islands. The witnesses to these occurrences cut across all educational, cultural, ethnic, religious, and class lines. The UFO phenomenon is worldwide.

As in America, many other countries have strong private UFO-investigating organizations which catalogue and

analyze the cases reported to them. Some of the best periodicals are published abroad—notably the British *Flying Saucer Review* and the French *Lumières dans la Nuit*.

As interesting as worldwide or historical sightings may be to read about, they still can seem quite remote, unreal, and improbable to the more skeptical American mind. A report from a farmer in England or France, or an intriguing incident from the past, no matter how well documented, will never be as real or as believable as a first-hand story told by a credible neighbor down the block, or better yet, as impactful as a first-hand experience.

NOTES FOR GLOBAL CASES

1. Carl Grove, "The Airship Wave of 1909," *Flying Saucer Review,* Vol. 16, No. 6, November-December 1970, pages 9–11, *Flying Saucer Review,* Vol. 17, No. 1, January-February 1971, pages 17–19.
2. John Keel, "Mystery Aeroplanes of the 1930s," Part I., *Flying Saucer Review,* Vol. 16, No. 3, May-June 1970, pages 10–13, Part II., *Flying Saucer Review,* Vol. 16, No. 4, July-August 1970, pages 9–14.
3. Jacobs, David M., "The Controversy Over Unidentified Flying Objects in America: 1896-1973," unpublished doctoral dissertation, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, May, 1973.
4. *Ibid.*
5. *The A.P.R.O. Bulletin,* July-August, 1973, pages 6–7.
6. Hynek, J. Allen, *The UFO Experience: A Scientific Inquiry,* Henry Regnery & Co., 1972, pp. 146–149.
7. *The A.P.R.O. Bulletin,* January-February, 1973, p. 10.

II

PRESENT

3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

It has been speculated about in books, hinted at in articles, expounded on by lecturers, and argued by UFO buffs that the Air Force has been, and still is, involved in an elaborate and perhaps sinister conspiracy to hide the real facts about UFOs from the public. Considering some of the Pentagon's past indiscretions, this allegation would appear to be quite in keeping.

But, after reviewing the subject within the Pentagon in some frank, closed-door discussions, spending several days with the ex-heads of Project Blue Book, retired Lieutenant Colonel Robert Friend and Lieutenant Colonel Hector Quintanilla, reviewing the subject with the Air Force's scientific advisor on UFOs, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, plus studying many official internal documents, personal letters, and files—after all that, I feel the "conspiracy" idea is mostly in the minds of the accusers. The only thing that's been proven to my satisfaction is that the mere accusation of a "conspiracy" in itself sells books and puts lecturers in demand. After all, what's more titillating than rumors of "three flying saucers carefully hidden away in some cave behind the hills of Colorado Springs by the Air Force"? Or the often-heard rumor that there are "two small extraterrestrial bodies, recovered from a downed spacecraft, now pickled and kept in the third sub-basement of the Air Force's

Foreign Technology Division in Ohio"? That's potent stuff—but in reality I believe our government may be as mystified by the phenomena as the man down the street.

If the Air Force gives an outer appearance of having the situation well under control, internally it is plagued by loose ends. Report after report reads, "no definite and conclusive evidence is yet available that would *prove* or disprove the existence of unidentified flying objects as real aircraft of unknown and conventional configurations" or "it can never be absolutely proven that 'flying saucers' do not exist." In fact, an extraterrestrial theory, at one time, had been seriously considered as the explanation. But to understand the Air Force's real interest in UFOs, a brief background of its involvement might be helpful.

The Pentagon first became actively involved in the UFO phenomenon in the late 1940s, when reports started coming in about objects and lights seen in the sky by military personnel and others with high credibility. The Air Force—then it was the Air Corps—thought there was a logical explanation but decided to investigate the matter anyway. There was that one possibility that these flying objects could well be foreign weapons deployed here for test purposes, and that possibility made it a national-security concern. Early investigations led right into no-man's land, and it quickly became apparent to the Pentagon that the UFO phenomenon would need increased and more penetrating study. So General Nathan F. Twining—then Commander of Air Materiel Command, which included the intelligence-gathering arm for the Air Corps—recommended, in a top-level discussion, starting a full-scale classified study to identify these unidentifiable objects.

The investigation branch was called Project Sign. The

project had been under way for only two weeks when Captain Mantell crashed in his P-51 pursuing what the press felt to be a UFO. It made headlines across the nation. The staff's investigation was far from complete, but public pressure was enormous and building. Project Sign personnel were forced to come up with an answer to quiet growing speculation that Mantell had been killed by hostile aliens in a flying saucer. That's when they decided that Mantell was probably chasing Venus. They had statistics to back it up. It was, in the last analysis, an explanation, right or wrong.

Now the task was to determine whether the growing number of reports coming in were descriptions of foreign secret weapons. German scientists brought to the U.S. at the close of World War II from Peenemünde (the German's secret rocket proving grounds) were carefully interrogated. Many of their former colleagues had been taken to Russia after the war; could they have developed a vehicle that matched the reported descriptions of UFO behavior? In each case, the German scientists responded that there was "no possibility of a colleague inventing a flying object matching the descriptions of the behavior given to them of UFOs." After checking out the other military branches and our World War II allies, Project Sign personnel couldn't come up with a definite explanation.

Then in 1948, the Chiles and Whitted case had a great impact on the Air Force's project—it presented them with the first close-up account by highly reliable witnesses. Examination of the drawings and description of the object led some of the staff to postulate an "extraterrestrial theory." And they wrote up their then-top-secret "Estimate of the Situation," suggesting that the saucers were most probably from outer space.

This theory was rejected by the Air Force Chief of Staff, General Hoyt Vandenberg, and even by other Project Sign

staff members, as not having enough proof—so the "extraterrestrial visitation" idea was dropped for the time being.

In light of this, it was felt that Air Force officers should investigate these UFO reports. After enough reports had been solved—and the phenomena clearly shown to be no threat to national security—the Air Force should then drop UFO investigations as a special program. The project was thus reorganized under the name Project Grudge.

Grudge attempted to identify the unidentified objects in the reports, and in most cases suggested the most probable explanation, based on current scientific knowledge. But still about twenty-three percent remained unexplained. The staff stated publicly that it felt these unknowns could be misinterpretations of conventional objects, hoaxes, or the result of "a mild form of mass hysteria or war nerves," and they recommended closing down the project.

Nevertheless, more sightings by reputable and competent witnesses followed, and the press got hold of the information. The Air Force was forced to upgrade the project again, and it decided to make another attempt at solving and explaining the various sightings from around the country. Project Grudge's name was changed to Project Blue Book in 1952, and that became its permanent name.

1952 was a big year for UFO sightings—over 1,500 reports. Of course, the early fifties were full of anxiety: the Korean War, fears of Russian attack, the McCarthy hearings, the cold war.

Against this background the CIA entered the picture: Could UFOs indirectly create a menace to us? Could they be used in any way as a "decoy" or propaganda aid to the Communists? The Air Force cooperated with the CIA and sponsored a scientific inquiry called the Robertson Panel.

After several days, the panel determined that the evi-

dence to date did not justify the Air Force's sustained and systematic study of UFOs. The panel concluded that the public should be educated to the fact that most UFO sightings were, as the Air Force had always thought, misidentifications of conventional objects or natural phenomena. The thrust from that time on should be to show the public that all reported objects could be identified, if there were sufficient information. So with an almost "explain it come hell or high water" approach, the investigations continued.

From this point—up until 1969—the Air Force came into a lot of criticism. For one thing, the Blue Book files were under the jurisdiction of an intelligence organization of the Air Force; by necessity, all intelligence information was classified. Blue Book also had other confidential material, like names and addresses of witnesses, in the records. To satisfy the public, there were regular press releases with Blue Book's conclusions, and annual summary reports were available. But because of the classification policies, the Air Force was still subject to heavy criticism—mainly the charge that it was holding back proof that UFOs were extraterrestrial vehicles. It created a bad dilemma for the Air Force: it had no proof that UFOs *were* spaceships, but it couldn't prove they *weren't* spaceships, either.

Criticism was the greatest around 1966, about the time that Dr. J. Allen Hynek made headlines by saying that sightings in Michigan were of swamp gas, not UFOs. Then-Congressman Gerald Ford called for a congressional hearing, and more study was proposed. This finally led to the famous Condon Committee Reports.

In December, 1969, amidst great public controversy, the Condon Report from the University of Colorado finally came out. The Committee had found no evidence whatsoever that UFOs were a threat to the national security (which

so far has not been disproved), and Condon recommended that the Air Force terminate its UFO investigations and analysis. He also stated that no scientific knowledge had come out of previous studies, and none could be expected in the future. Everyone seemed satisfied with the report; in 1969, with a great sigh of relief, the Air Force officially disbanded Project Blue Book. As a result they are no longer studying UFOs.

The Air Force's struggle over how to handle the UFO phenomenon is now history, and it makes an interesting side story to the UFOs themselves. But in spite of official positions and the collective conclusions of all the reports, the UFO phenomena keep going strong—with or without official Air Force sanction.

A close look at the official data relating to the UFO phenomenon is most revealing. In the following pages you are invited to look behind the scenes and judge for yourself.

4. THE MANTELL CASE—1947

Kenneth Arnold, a pilot, sighted an unidentified object in the sky on June 24, 1947, and it was to be the first of a flood of reports around the United States. The wave of sightings had actually started in January of that year, but Arnold's sighting report was the first to capture the attention of the news media, and it made headlines across the country. This sensational publicity occurred just when the 1947 wave was peaking that summer, and it created favorable conditions for others to report their sightings to the newspapers. Many of these published reports came from people who had witnessed UFOs before the Arnold sightings.

At the time there was no agency to catalogue the reports, so it was years before the true dimensions of the 1947 sighting wave became known. Later researchers found that over 850 sightings were reported during that critical year, making it one of the biggest waves of UFO sightings in American history.

Most of the reports were being made to the news media, so the Air Corps received only a small portion of them. The Air Corps, however, took the reports that it did receive seriously, especially since many came from military personnel and other people with high credibility and reliability.

By the end of 1947, memoranda on "flying discs" began to circulate through the upper echelon at the Pentagon.

These memos were to give birth to an official investigation of UFOs. Here is an excerpt from a then-secret memo from the office of Major General Craigie, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, at Wright-Patterson, Ohio, dated 30 December 1947:

> It is Air Force policy not to ignore reports of sightings and phenomena in the atmosphere but to recognize that part of its mission is to collect, collate, evaluate, and act on information of this nature.
>
> . . . it is desired that the Air Force Air Materiel Command set up a project whose purpose is to collect, collate, evaluate, and distribute to interested government agencies and contractors all information concerning sightings and phenomena in the atmosphere which can be construed to be of concern to the national security. . . .
>
> This project is assigned priority 2A, with a security classification of "restricted" and a code name "Sign." Where data of a classification higher than restricted is handled by the project, such data should be classified accordingly.
>
> Signed by Command of the Chief of Staff.

Approximately eight days after this memorandum, a "report of unusual incident" classified as "Restricted" was entered into the Air Force records. It began:

> At approximately 1400E, 7 January 1947, Kentucky State Police reported to Ft. Knox Military Police they had sighted an unusual aircraft or object flying through air, circular in appearance, approximately 250-300 feet in diameter, moving westward at "a pretty good clip." This in turn was reported to the

Commanding Officer, Godman Field, Ft. Knox, Kentucky, who called Godman Tower and asked them to have Flight Service check with Flight Test at Wright Field to see if they had any experimental aircraft in that area.

Forty minutes before the state police reported the "unusual aircraft," the tower crew at Godman Field had sighted a bright, disc-shaped object which they were unable to identify. The assistant tower operator watched the object for several minutes before making a report to his chief. Key personnel were alerted and began arriving at the tower, where they viewed the object through eight-power binoculars. The Base Commanding Officer, Colonel Hix, arrived. Looking through the binoculars, he described it: "It's very white and looks like an umbrella. I just don't know what it is. Through the binocs it appears to have a red border at the bottom at times . . . and a red border at the top at times."

About this time four P-51s happened to be in the area, en route from Marietta, Georgia, to Standiford Field in Louisville, Kentucky. The CO at Godman Field decided to contact the lead pilot and request that he investigate the object seen overhead. The lead pilot was Captain Thomas Mantell. The events of the next few minutes were to lead him, a veteran pilot, to his death.

Mantell was like a lot of men who had joined the service in World War II. He trained as a pilot in the States, went overseas to North Africa and England, and survived several missions including the D-Day invasion of Normandy. Later he flew missions over Holland and participated in the Rhine Crossing. He was now out of active service and, with a partner, had started a little business, the Elkins-Mantell

Flying School, in Louisville. His wife was expecting a call from him later that day. His two boys, a six-year-old and one seventeen months old, were also at home. Friends said Mantell was "easy-going," above average in intelligence, could take care of himself, and never seemed to have any personal problems. "Mantell loved flying"—especially the P-51 which he flew "not carelessly, but like an aggressive fighter pilot," according to his closest friend.

But as fate would have it, this veteran pilot, who had flown and survived under trying war conditions, would meet his death that day. Mantell's name would be associated with one of the first and more controversial UFO cases recorded by the Air Force—and only Mantell ever knew what actually happened.

As the flight of P-51s appears in the sky over Godman, the Commanding Officer presses the intercom key and contacts the Flight Leader. Mantell answers: "Roger, Godman Tower. This is NG 3869 Flight Leader of formation. Over." The Base Commander, Colonel Hix, responds: "NG 3869 from Godman. We have an object out south of Godman here that we are unable to identify, and we would like to know if you have gas enough, and if you could take a look for us, if you will." Mantell replies: "Roger. I have the gas and will take a look for you, if you give me the correct reading."

One fighter plane requests to drop out. The three remaining P-51s take a reading from Godman Tower and turn south. In a few moments Mantell has moved ahead of his wing men. The tower contacts the Flight Leader again, this time to correct his course 5 degrees to the left, to 210 degrees from Godman Tower.

Mantell's voice breaks in over the intercom: "Godman

Tower. This is Flight Leader NG 3869, Captain Mantell." He has sighted it. "Object traveling at half my speed and directly ahead of me and above." The tower personnel listen as Mantell continues: "I'm closing in to take a good look."

Another pilot's voice breaks in: "What the hell are we looking for?" The tower doesn't respond but pushes Mantell for an identification of the object: "Can you give us a description?"

A few more moments pass. Mantell informs the tower: "It's above me . . . it appears metallic and to be *tremendous* in size." Another moment passes and Mantell, knowing he is not equipped with oxygen, nevertheless informs the tower: "I'm going to twenty thousand feet."

The other pilots, lacking oxygen equipment also, level off under 15,000 and start down. The commander and the tower operator watch and wait. Within a few minutes, at approximately 3:15 P.M., Godman Tower loses sight of the UFO and Mantell's plane. Over the intercom you no longer hear the transmission from his P-51, only the sound of the engine as it strains in the distance on its way to 30,000 feet. The tower tries again to contact Mantell.

Five minutes later, there is a telephone call. Captain Mantell's plane has been located—it has crashed; his decapitated body lies near the wreckage. It is noted that Mantell's watch stopped at 3:10.

The Air Force was in a dilemma about releasing the unpleasant photos of the crash and Mantell's body beside it. The press sensed that the Air Force was holding back the photos for ulterior reasons. Stories and speculations sprang up and found their way into the media—that his body was

covered with strange, unearthly radiation burns, that he had been struck down from the sky by an alien spacecraft.

The public clamored for more information and explanations. The Air Force, pressed for an official explanation, made a complete investigation and then, taking their best shot, announced that Mantell had simply been pursuing the planet Venus, which was located in that area of the sky. This explanation, coupled with the holding back of the photos, did not satisfy those who believed it was an Air Force cover-up.

A look at the investigator's report gives you some insight into what actually happened—but as you read into it, you'll notice that "Venus" was following a highly erratic orbit that day.

> Officer Walker stated that when he arrived, the pilot's body had been removed from the aircraft. Upon questioning eyewitnesses, Officer Walker learned that the aircraft had exploded in the air before it hit the ground, but, that the aircraft did not burn upon contact with the ground.
>
> The wreckage was scattered over an area of about one mile, and at that time the tail section, one wing, and the propeller had not been located.
>
> Lt. Tyler, Operations Officer at Standiford Field, departed Standiford Field for Bolling Green, Kentucky, in NG 8101 to investigate the accident. Also at our suggestion an investigation party and Military Police were dispatched from Godman Field to the scene.

The reporting officer goes on to say:

> Godman Tower again contacted us to report that there was a large light in the sky in the approximate

position of the object seen earlier. Then Lockbourne Tower and Clinton County Tower advised a great ball of light was traveling southwest across the sky.

We then contacted Olmsted Flight Service Center and gave them all the information available to deliver to the Air Defense Command at Mitchell Field, Hempstead, New York.

Later we received a call from St. Louis Tower advising that a great ball of light was passing directly over the field—Scott Tower also verified this.

We then received a call from Air Defense Command through Olmstead Flight Service Center advising us to alert Coffeyville, Kansas, Ft. Smith, Arkansas, and Kansas City, Missouri, and that they had plotted the object as moving WSW at 250 miles per hour.

The report continues on for several pages and concludes:

It is the ATIC opinion that Captain Mantell lost consciousness due to oxygen starvation, the aircraft being trimmed continued to climb until increasing altitude caused a sufficient loss of power for it to level out. The aircraft then began a turn to the left due to torque and as the wing dropped so did the nose until the aircraft was in a tight diving spiral. The uncontrolled descent resulted in excessive speed causing the aircraft to disintegrate. It is believed that Captain Mantell never regained consciousness. This is borne out by the fact that the canopy lock was still in place after the crash, discounting any attempt to abandon the aircraft. The UFO was in no way *directly* responsible for this accident.

The Air Force concluded that Mantell had been pursuing the planet Venus; but there was one observation made of the unidentified object in a signed affidavit that the Air Force must have overlooked. In it, we get a different description of what Mantell may have been chasing that day. The military man involved describes a cone-shaped object that appeared to be surrounded with burning gas.

State of Ohio
County of Clinton

Before me, the undersigned authority for administering oaths of this kind, personally appeared one James H. Hudson, Cpl, ASN 13220873, who, being first duly sworn by me, deposes and says:

The following information came over Plan 62:

This observation was made in Kentucky at the scene of the P-51 crash with an 8″ telescope:

1. Height, 4 miles.
2. Width, 43 feet.
3. Height of object, 100 feet.
4. Speed at time, 10 mph.
5. Shape, cone.
6. Color, red with green tail.

This observation was taken at Godman Field, Kentucky, with a theodolite:

1854 CST. Elevation 2.4, Azimuth 254.6
1856 CST. Elevation 2.0, Azimuth 253.9
1902 CST. Elevation 1.2, Azimuth 253.0
1906 CST. Disappeared.

The following is my opinion: The object is not a comet or star, but was man-made. It was not a balloon, comet, star, or aircraft of known type. The light did not come from an aircraft's running lights. The whole object appeared to be surrounded with burning gas or something that gave light. . . .

Although at first the Air Force investigator's report stayed with the conclusion that Mantell had been pursuing the planet Venus, later information led them to believe it was a Navy Sky Hook Balloon thought to be in the area at the time. That was the most probable cause. And that revised conclusion closed the Mantell case.

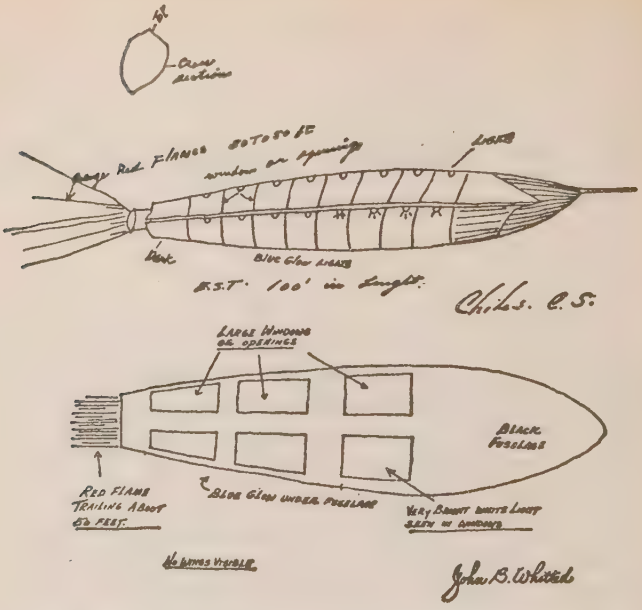
The explanation still didn't account for the many other descriptions given by other military ground observers. This was only the beginning of an unresolvable dilemma for the Pentagon.

5. THE CHILES AND WHITTED CASE—1948

Six months later, on July 24, 1948, a cylindrical object giving off a phosphorescent glow was sighted in the night sky over Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. Forty minutes later, a pilot over Blackstone, Virginia, observed an object leaving a trail and traveling at a terrific speed in a southwesterly direction.

At 2:45 A.M., Captain C. S. Chiles and First Officer J. B. Whitted were piloting Eastern Airlines Flight #576 from Houston to Atlanta when, Whitted reports, "We sighted an object coming toward us. . . . This strange object had a stream of red fire coming from its tail and I could see it was much larger than anything I had seen or read about."

It being a clear moonlit night, visibility was excellent. Chiles then noticed that the object had no wings supporting it. "It passed us on the right side. Its speed was about 700 miles per hour." And both men got a very good look at this unusual object: "It was about 100 feet long, shaped like a cigar," and as it passed they clearly saw "two rows of windows, an upper and lower, that were large and square." From inside the windows came "a very bright light glowing" and they could see that the underside of the ship had a "blue glow," like a fluorescent light. As it passed, it pulled up and into some broken clouds—and was lost from view.

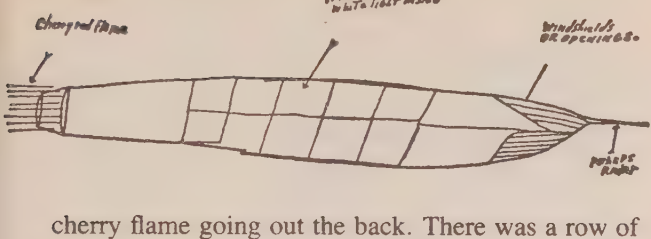


"We heard no noise and felt no turbulence from the object," the men added.

The Air Force investigators checked out Chiles and Whitted: they found that Chiles, in the war, had been in command capacity with the Air Force, had vast experience in judging and identifying aircraft, and retired as a lieutenant colonel. Whitted's reliability was also found to be "excellent."

That night there was a third witness—the one passenger who was awake on that Eastern Airlines flight, Clarence McKelvie. In his signed letter, he describes it this way:

> The male steward said to me, "I noticed you watching out the window." I told him there was something flashing—it looked like a cigar with a

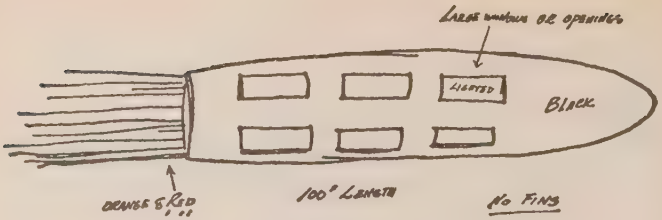


cherry flame going out the back. There was a row of windows and going in that direction fast. It made no noise. I heard nothing, because of the sound of the plane. It disappeared very quickly. . . . It was on the right side of the plane, going off the horizon. It disappeared . . . or we went past it.

The steward asked if I would talk to the pilot. Yes. The pilot came back and took down verbatim. He didn't say anything—he was shook. He said he had flown all during the war and "this is the strangest experience I ever had." He was shaking all the time.

Oh, I was interrogated by groups—Air Force Intelligence of Wright-Patterson and Hynek's group. I was asked: "Do you think it was a flying saucer?" I didn't know—I was looking at it on edge. If I had been looking above or below, but I was looking directly. Couldn't tell. Scared me to death . . . with the plane falling and seeing that thing go on by . . . It was hair raising.

This object was witnessed by pilots of three aircraft and a passenger, and ground observers added even more corroboration. The conclusion of an Air Intelligence report was that the object remained unidentified as to origin, construction, and power source, and it went into the record classified



as "unknown." In the early 1960s, the Air Force abruptly decided that Chiles and Whitted had seen a meteor.

But behind the scenes during that time, the Air Force had done some serious homework in an attempt to consider any and all possible explanations for what Chiles, Whitted, and McKelvie had seen. Here is part of an Air Intelligence report on the sighting.

Tech Intelligence Div.
Intelligence Department
Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio

Report 102-122-79

Apparently it is not of domestic origin since a thorough check of 225 flight schedules both commercial and governmental, revealed that in only one instance did the reported flight paths cross. (See chart inclosed as Exhibit "I"). This single exception was the flight in a northwesterly direction of a C-47 enroute Robins AF Base to Olmsted Field, Pa. Its time of departure would have enabled it to have passed through the approximate areas on the 24 July 1948 where the sightings were reported. However,

the factors of speed, direction of flight, maneuvers, configurations, lights and other factors rule out this one possibility.

Objects similar in configuration have been reported as follows:

a. Rocket-like objects capable of immense speed were seen during the past summer in broad daylight in Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

b. A wingless aircraft was observed moving at high speed at Obrechstreet, Arnheim, The Hague, Holland. The object was seen intermittently through clouds and was reported to have two decks.

Flying Fuselages (Torpedo of Cigar-Shaped Body)

a. While the cigar or torpedo-shaped body represents an efficient form for the fuselage of an airplane or the body of a guided missile, in neither case has it been used as a primary lift producing surface. However, an extension of the Prandtl theory of lift indicates that a fuselage of the dimensions reported by the Eastern Airlines pilots Whitted and Chiles in the Montgomery, Alabama, incident could support a gross weight of approximately 12,000 pounds at an arbitrarily chosen stalling speed of 150 miles per hour, conservatively estimated. The Prandtl theory probably gives very conservative values of maximum lift for bodies of this shape. If a lift coefficient twice as great were used (such a value has been given by a German scientist from memory of his wind tunnel researches in Germany), a gross weight of 24,000 pounds could be supported at the assumed stalling speed.

b. Although the craft sighted by Whitted and Chiles was reported to be without wings or fins, it is possible it could have been equipped with extensible wings for take-off and landing, contained within the

fuselage. In such a case a wing span of nearly 90 feet would be possible. If an aspect ratio of 5 were used (18 ft. mean aerodynamic chord), and if the wing design incorporated slots and flaps, the wing could support 115,000 pounds at a stalling speed of 150 mph. It is possible that the fuselage could also contribute lift with this arrangement, depending upon the incidence of the wing. This type of aircraft could also be partially supported in the take-off and landing condition by the vertical component of the jet thrust, if the landing and take-off took place in a vertical or nearly vertical attitude. The further possibility that an extensible rotor, concealed within the fuselage, could have been used, would provide another method for landing and take-off that would allow wingless flight at very high speed. Such a design could result in a relatively large duration of flight and corresponding range.

c. While no stabilizing fins were apparent on the "flying fuselage" reported by Whitted and Chiles, it is possible that vanes within the jet, operated by a gyroservo system could have provided static stability, longitudinally, directionally and laterally. The same vanes could also have been used for accomplishing static balance or trim, as well as control for maneuvering. A square-tailed body of the type reported with the center of gravity sufficiently far forward can develop, approximately, a neutral stability and the possibility exists that definite static stability could be produced by a judicious use of flow-control slots located somewhere along the fuselage.

That obviously doesn't explain the UFO, but it shows us something other than a cavalier attitude toward the UFO problem. The Air Force was doing some serious thinking.

6. WASHINGTON, D.C.—1952

It's been said in jest that if these UFOs are from other worlds and they wanted it to be known, all they'd have to do is land on the White House lawn. But an incredible incident, almost too quickly forgotten, took place over our Capital in 1952. Even President Truman wanted to be kept up to date on all the details. As Mr. Al Chop recalls the famous incident that stirred the Capital:

"It was a warm summer night here in Washington on the nineteenth of July, 1952. As the spokesman for the Pentagon on UFOs then, I recall the events clearly. A report came from three control operators at Washington National Airport. They reported [that] the first wave of sightings happened on a Saturday night, a series of five unidentified targets appeared on radar. A call was made to Air Traffic Control Center. They had the same targets located over Andrews Air Force Base. Then . . . Andrews reported visual sighting of three objects in the same position indicated by Washington Tower. The targets stayed on radar until twelve-thirty. They moved slowly at first, about one hundred to two hundred miles per hour. And then, one target shot away at a fantastic speed, from west of Andrews to Riverdale—estimated speed seventy-three hundred miles per hour. The tower operator at Bowling Air Force Base sighted one of the objects drifting low in the sky southeast

of Bowling Air Base. Also, several airliner crews reported seeing the object: Capital Airlines Flight and National Airlines Flight. Flight T807 sighted three at level flight, moving at terrific speed. Casey Pierman on that Flight T807 saw 'several flying objects with bright lights.' By this time, the tower had numerous unidentified blips on radar too, about seven, and their speeds were . . . 'phenomenal.' One then followed National Flight SP610 up to within four miles of touchdown. I remember one tower operator was frantic. Some of the unidentified objects then flew over the restricted air corridors here above the White House and Capitol. My office, to say the least, was swamped with inquiries from the press."

The phenomena weren't to subside—the following Saturday night, July 26, a repeat performance unsettled the Capital again.

Chop continued: "I was awakened about midnight on July 26 by a telephone call to my home in Virginia. It was the FAA spokesman and he told me that air traffic controllers were again tracking a large number of UFOs over the Capital area, so I drove to the airport. He told me also that a large number of news people were 'beating our doors down.' He asked me when I arrived if I'd take over the situation. As I drove to the airport, I glanced at the sky and frankly saw nothing.

"I entered the radar room. The scope had a phosphorous control glass top. There were several other traffic controllers huddled around. Small plastic markers identified the known air flights, there were also several marked 'unknown.' There were from six to a dozen or more 'unknown' and they simply moved too fast for airplanes. The movements were also haphazard. They'd move along a definite path then suddenly disappear. Others would appear. We checked with

Andrews radar controllers and tower operation throughout the night tracking the same 'unknowns.'

"I placed a call to the command post in the Pentagon and requested an intercept mission. I told the press they could watch the radar scope and we were waiting for an intercept. *Life* magazine asked to photograph the scope, but before they could set up, we were alerted that the intercept mission would be using classified orders and I had to order the newsmen from the room. *Life* newsman Clay Blair became incensed and told me I'd be out of a job on Monday. All I could say was, 'So be it. But you can't stay in the room.'

"We returned to the scope. The two F-94s appeared about two-forty A.M. on the scope, but as they appeared, a frightening thing happened . . . the target blips disappeared off the scope. Our interceptors flew around for about fifteen minutes and returned to base with negative results. As our interceptors left the scope, our targets reappeared. About three A.M. I called the Pentagon Command Post and explained the situation. They said: "Stand by—a second scramble is on the way.' This time, the 'unknowns' stayed on the scope and we directed the intercepts to the exact compass readings. We split the flight—one to the north, the other aircraft south.

"The first pilot reported in that he 'can't see anything . . .' We could see they were moving close to the target. Red Dog 2, as we designated the pilot going to the north, suddenly reported, 'Now I see them—they are directly ahead of me . . . They appear to be tremendous blue-white lights.' We could tell by radar that they were getting very close. Then a second report came in. He was somewhat excited, and I don't blame him; he reported, 'They're all around me now.' A pause, then: 'They appear to be closing in on me . . .' Moments passed and the last remark I remember was the pilot's voice almost pleading:

'What shall I do?' Well, we saw the 'unknowns' appear to place themselves in a ring around his aircraft. We all just looked at each other. Ten or twenty seconds later, he reported, 'They're moving off now.' A few moments later, he called in to say he was returning to base. The UFOs remained on the scope till Saturday morning, about five A.M."

Those Washington sightings were the most sensational to occur since the Mantell incident four years earlier. The story made headlines around the country. At ten o'clock on the morning after the sightings, General Landry, at the request of President Truman, called Intelligence to find out what was happening over Washington.

"As I recall," Chop related, "the press demanded a conference with top Air Force officials. Under pressure from all sides, Major General John Samford, Chief of Air Force Intelligence, agreed to hold a press conference. It was scheduled for July 29. With General Samford were Air Force specialists on radar, high-ranking officers from the Information Department, and weather specialists. It was the biggest press conference since World War II."

General Samford gave some opening remarks concerning continuing Air Force efforts to look into the UFO situation because it was the Air Force's responsibility to do so. He said the Air Force had been able to explain 80 percent of the UFO reports, and he felt that if additional information could have been obtained on the remaining 20 percent, they too could be explained to his satisfaction.

General Samford said he personally believed the unknown targets observed over Washington were the result of a "temperature inversion on both nights." He used several weather and radar specialists to help explain how radar equipment can pick up reflections of ground objects during a period of temperature inversion.

He said many other reports of UFOs had proved to be "misinterpretations of conventional objects such as birds, balloons, aircraft, ballooning spiders," etc. He convinced most of those newsmen present that the Washington radar contacts were due to "unusual weather aloft over the area."

But Al Chop added, "About one week later, Major Lewis Norman, Jr., an Air Force radar specialist, told Major Fournet, Captain Ruppelt, and myself that the temperature inversion present in the Washington area on the night in question was not sufficient to cause the radar to pick up reflections of ground objects. Major Norman was a specialist working with the Air Force Aircraft Control and Warning Branch. He said an inversion of the order of ten degrees to seventeen degrees Fahrenheit was required before the radar would react to ground clutter.

"The U.S. Weather Bureau figures for the two nights in question showed the temperature inversion present over Washington to be not more than one-tenth of one percent different on the Fahrenheit scale.

"This information was not released to the press. The news media seemed satisfied with General Samford's explanation," Chop confided.

Although a "weather inversion" was the conclusion of the report made public by the Air Force investigators, interestingly enough, the actual internal report begins with this revealing comment:

> A study of the various reports regarding the subject radar sightings does not allow a positive and final explanation to be made. As usual the factual and scientific data necessary for analysis are not available.

Unfortunately, the elusive evidence to prove or disprove any theory about UFOs would continue to escape the government's investigations.

7. THE ROBERTSON PANEL—1953

The following year, in 1953, the official government interest was to change dramatically.

The CIA now would enter the picture, by convening a panel of top scientists to examine the UFO phenomenon. The CIA's concern was that recent waves of sightings might constitute a threat to our national security—the thinking was that the "enemy" could exploit UFOs as a decoy in preparation for an attack on the United States.

Five outstanding scientists and various Air Force and CIA representatives were to meet on Wednesday, January 14, 1953. Among the panel members was one associate member, who was destined to have more experience with the UFO phenomenon than any other American scientist to date: Dr. J. Allen Hynek, astrophysicist and now head of the astronomy department of Northwestern University.

I sat across from Hynek at the studio where the UFO television special was being prepared. Hynek likes to play with his pipe and had just finished filling it. He began in a high, thin, broken voice, which is a mannerism of his. After a minute or two he settled down into less professorial tones and got into his recollections of the Robertson Panel:

"I can remember that day very well . . . I had very mixed feelings, being among such a group of highly respected and high-powered scientists: Dr. Robertson,

Chairman of the panel; Samuel Goudsmit, an associate of Einstein; Louis Alvarez, later to win the Nobel Prize; Thornton Page, astrophysicist; and the distinguished Lloyd Berkner.

"At that time, I was somewhat a newcomer and a junior—an associate member of the Robertson Panel. I guess I was somewhat nervous and apprehensive—but also quite interested in UFOs, having spent some four years, at that time, working with Air Force officials investigating sightings.

"I was called in on Thursday to that room. The members were seated around a table, a conference table like this one. I sat in the back until it was my turn to speak. During the meeting there were two films of UFO sightings that were of great interest to everyone at the time. One was shot by a Navy officer in Utah* and another shot in Great Falls, Montana. The Utah flim was to result in over a thousand man-hours of analyzing the phenomena captured on that film. Oddly enough, there wasn't any movie screen, so these films were projected right on the wall.

"After one thousand hours of analysis on the Utah film . . . the Navy photograph interpretation labs . . . concluded that what we saw was not birds, balloons,

*Here is the Navy Officer's description of taking the film:

Driving from Washington, D.C., to Portland, Oregon, on the morning of 2 July, my wife noticed a group of objects in the sky that she could not identify. She asked me to stop the car and look. There was a group of about ten or twelve objects—that bore no relation to anything I had seen before—milling about in a rough formation and proceeding in a westerly direction. I opened the luggage compartment of the car and got my camera out of a suitcase. Loading it hurriedly, I exposed approximately thirty feet of film. There was no reference point in the sky and it was impossible for me to make any estimate of speed, size, altitude, or distance. Toward the end one of the objects reversed course and proceeded away from the main group. I held the camera still and allowed this single one to cross the field of view, picking it up again and repeating for three or four such passes. By this time all of the objects had disappeared. I expended the balance of the film late that afternoon on a mountain somewhere in Idaho.

(signed)
Delbert C. Newhouse

aircraft, or reflections, but that these were 'self-luminous' unidentified objects. In spite of this conclusion, the panel rejected the Navy's findings and decided that it must have been birds."

After four days of testimony, evaluation, and recommendations, the panel concluded that "the evidence presented on Unidentified Flying Objects shows no indication that these phenomena constitute a direct physical threat to national security." It went on to suggest that a public educational program be initiated to help people identify natural phenomena thought to be UFOs. This program would be "designed to reassure the public of the total lack of evidence on inimical forces behind the phenomena." This would cut down the number of reports to the Air Force, reports which could potentially jam the phone lines to the Pentagon.

I asked Dr. Hynek if the Robertson Panel seemed like a whitewash—was it purposely setting out to debunk the UFO phenomenon? "If the whole Robertson Panel was a put-up job," Hynek replied "then one could argue that they deliberately chose high scientific-establishment men, men who were terribly terribly busy, could obviously not spend a lot of time examining things and had no intention of doing their homework, but of simply passing judgment on the basis of their previous scientific experience in, and only in, their present scientific framework. And, it would have been just as difficult to express a different idea as it would have been to convince a physicist in the year 1880 that matter and energy are interchangeable. The law (in 1880) said that matter was conserved, *no matter what,* and that was that! And, you just don't come around with this nonsense about matter being changed into energy. I mean, it was that sort of attitude that I sensed all throughout."

In view of that attitude, Hynek continued, it would have

been difficult to convince the panel they were mistaken. "Do I have any outstanding evidence to present to the contrary? Well, I thought I might have had, but in the face of that onslaught, I wasn't about to bring it up; and furthermore, the data at that time was not convincing in the sense that a physicist wants something to be convincing. . . .

"And when the report finally came out, that is, the recommendations, I was not overly surprised to find the tack they had taken of the general need for debunking.

"Now, it is true that . . . described during the meetings (were) the military implications of the flap of 1952, the crowding of military wires, so that if some enemy, for instance, had wanted to perpetrate a Pearl Harbor, let's say, all they would have needed to do was to get their agents to spawn a whole bunch of UFO reports at the right time, and it's quite true that the military wires would have been so clogged, and one wouldn't have been able to tell a UFO from a missile from a hole in the ground. So, I recognized the . . . danger that UFO reports . . . could be at critical times." He paused for a moment and I commented, "It sounds like they generally had a very closed-minded attitude."

Hynek looked up and leaned over in a confiding way: "Another way to describe their basic attitude . . . was very clearly an attitude of 'Daddy knows best, don't come to me with these silly stories, I know what's good for you and don't argue.'

"My experience with the Robertson Panel stayed with me, and years later, when I wrote a strong recommendation to the Air Force that a scientific panel should be set up to study the whole situation,* I specifically said that although good scientists should be chosen, they should be those who

*Described in Hynek's book, *The UFO Experience*, Ballantine, 1974.

had sufficient time to do their homework and not expect to conduct a scientific investigation in a few days by, you might say, taking a vote on it rather than studying.

"If I had known, or even thought, that the UFO problem would still be with us in 1974, bigger than ever, I certainly would have taken greater note of what went on in the Robertson Panel, and this is true all throughout, even in my years of Blue Book . . . I didn't keep the notes or wasn't aware of the politics behind the whole business as I certainly now realize I should have been."

"Weren't they intrigued by the film shown to them?" I asked.

"The viewing of the two films is the incident which remains by far most vivid in my mind," Hynek replied, "the rather informal attitude at the time. The men had left their austere positions around the conference table and were sort of crouching around and leaning over each other's shoulders watching the films. There was a whole interplay of comments. Not exactly wisecracks, but 'Well, it certainly looks like seagulls to me,' and, 'You can't convince me that that's not birds, it's gotta be birds,' and words to that effect. Some people expressed a little dismay at the Tremonton films that they didn't realize that birds could reflect that much and someone would say, 'Oh, yes, if the light's right, sun's right,' and I believe that I mentioned that the change in light was too rapid for it to be birds in flight, but that got nowhere.

"Certainly, throughout the whole meeting, I did not feel at all like a colleague of the panel, but rather as one of the witnesses brought in for certain evidence or comments, and then dismissed as a witness would be when he's asked to step down from the chair.

"Well, I guess that's really all of the impressions I have. It's been nearly twenty-one years since then. I do remember

the room quite vividly. I don't remember the building, but the shape of the room and particularly the showing of the films on the wall, this I do remember, and also the rather unctuous and self-important bearing of one of the members who was really terribly impressed with his role in this thing [and the fact that] it was a CIA meeting. I was not impressed with their results or with their manner of going about it; in fact, I was rather disappointed."

8. BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA—1953

That same year, 1953, the military investigated another incident. This time it was in Bismarck, North Dakota. The event takes place on two nights. It is witnessed not only by some forty-five alarmed townspeople, but also the military Air Defense System personnel.

The ingredients of the story add yet another eerie dimension to our portrait of the UFO.

The object was first sighted by Miss Kellian at 8:05 P.M. It was seen as a red glowing light making long sweeping movements. The information was relayed to the Bismarck North Dakota Air Defense Filter Center. Sergeant Harry, some time later, spots the object from the roof. Sighting it, he plots its irregular course as it dances between telephone lines. Others on duty watch the moving light that would be visible in the night sky for some three hours. Sergeant Harry described it this way: "It would remain stationary—then hop up several degrees very quickly—almost instantaneously."

Another witness added, "It would stop . . . move to the left and then swerve down in a sort of slanting motion, repeating these maneuvers several times."

At midnight, three more objects appeared in the Dakota night sky, as if to join the first object. "Everybody at the

Filter Center had the feeling that somebody was watching us."

Before being sighted in Bismarck, two F-84s had been vectored into the area over Blackhawk, South Dakota. The objects and the jets were monitored on radar. One pilot had visual contact for twenty to thirty seconds. Over the intercom you could hear the description: "It's brighter than the brightest star I've ever seen." As the pilot gave chase, the light unexplainably disappeared. Now Lieutenant Needham, the second pilot, spotted one of the objects at 15,000 feet. It was below him to his right. The object moved spasmodically up and down, changing colors from white to green. In pursuit, Lieutenant Needham climbed to 26,000 feet and changed course to 360 degrees. After being steady on 360 degrees for a short time, Needham's radar lock-on-light on the A-4 gun-sight came on and remained on. The object was ahead of him. It increased its speed and moved rapidly ahead and up.

The chase was being carried on the radarscope back at the control room. Radar clearly showed that the UFO was staying five to ten miles ahead of Needham and his F-84. Finally, Lieutenant Needham had to give up the pursuit and return to his base. The object continued on and was picked up by the Filter Center in Bismarck.

At 1:09 A.M. an Air Force Globemaster C-124 flew over Bismarck. As the plane approached, the object closest to the plane appeared to send out a signal by blinking red and green. This signaling was then picked up by the other three objects. An observer put it this way: "It was as if a 'wave' passed from one to the other."

A signaling effect—a description that would cause Dr. Hynek, in his then-classified Air Force report, to conclude, "The entire incident, in my opinion, has too much of an

Alice-in-Wonderland flavor for comfort." Hynek even today confirms it: "That's exactly how I felt at the time."

The Air Force offered many possibilities as to the cause of the sightings, but in the final analysis the objects would remain on the records as "unknowns."

9. LEVELLAND, TEXAS—1957

On November 2, 1957, at 11:00 P.M., Patrolman Fowler, on duty in Levelland, Texas, received the first of several phone calls.

Two men driving four miles west of town saw a brilliantly illuminated object rapidly approach their car. Fowler listened to the driver's report: "As the object passed close over the truck, the headlights went out and the engine died. After the object passed, the lights came on and the engine started."

Fowler was ready to dismiss the reports when, one hour later, he got another call from a driver on the opposite end of town. He reported coming upon a brilliantly lit egg-shaped object, about two hundred feet long, sitting in the middle of the road. As the driver approached it, his car engine failed and the headlights darkened. "The object was lit up like a large neon light and cast a bright glare over the entire area."

Moments later, more reports with similar descriptions poured into the police headquarters.

According to the signed statement in the Blue Book records, at 12:05 A.M. a young man noticed his car stalling. "I got out of my car to check under the hood, but found nothing wrong. Closing the hood, I turned away and then noticed an oval-shaped object—flat on the bottom—sitting

on the road ahead . . . about a hundred twenty-five feet long . . . glowing with a bluish-green light. The object seemed to be made of an aluminum-like material, but no markings. The object finally rose into the air—almost straight up."

Officer Fowler received fifteen phone calls, all with similar descriptions and similar experiences.

Dr. Hynek comments on the Levelland sightings: "What was needed at that time was a swift reaction by Blue Book and a serious investigation. The Air Force project head at the time did call me by phone, but at the time, I was on around-the-clock duty, responsible for the tracking of the new Russian satellite, so I wasn't able to give it any attention whatever. I'm not proud that I hastily agreed with the [Air Force] project office's evaluation that it was 'ball lightning.' Frankly, there's no evidence ball lightning can stall cars and put out headlights."

Meanwhile, other sightings and reports continued to fill the Air Force files. Despite efforts to explain and scientifically solve them, the sightings grew in number . . . as high as six hundred in one month.

10. THE INTELLIGENCE CASE—1959

It seems the CIA was to become involved in the UFO phenomena again, in a most unusual way. A series of episodes was to take place, that, up until the printing of this book, were not public knowledge. The events were so bizarre that it is hard to believe they happened to people associated with such no-nonsense organizations as the Office of Naval Intelligence and the CIA.

The man involved in this unusual case was Lieutenant Colonel Robert Friend, USAF, former head of Project Blue Book, now retired. Friend is presently on the management staff of Celesco Company, which builds, and launches missiles for defense-testing purposes.

Robert Friend, from all I could gather, was highly regarded by his fellow officers and other Blue Book staff members. Dr. Hynek, who worked with him for several years, has particularly kind words of praise for Friend's open-minded, intelligent approach to the UFO phenomenon. Friend has a degree in physics and was well qualified to understand most phenomena related to astrophysical laws.

It was during my second meeting with Friend that he finally decided to talk about the CIA case. At the first meeting, probably because of his years as an intelligence officer, he was reluctant to give me any details, but since

that time, I had touched bases with the CIA and no apparent disapproval was expressed, so finally Friend relaxed. He stretched back in his chair, wiped his GI wire-rimmed glasses, ran a hand over his short-cropped hair, and then began. His speech reflected his years as a military career officer—careful and full of qualifiers.

"Among the many investigations I was involved in, one incident, or series of incidents, added a very odd chapter to my assignments as head of Blue Book. It seems that a Rear Admiral K——had information about a woman in upper Maine who purported to establish contact with extraterrestrial beings. Two Naval Intelligence oficers were sent to investigate. Prior to this time, the records indicated the Canadian government had conducted an extensive investigation of Mrs. S——'s claims. The Naval officers sat with the woman; she went into a trance and they asked her scientific and technical questions to which a woman of her education could not possibly know the answers. Yet, as questions were put to her, she was able to answer easily, with seeming telepathic help from these purported extraterrestrials. According to the report, she indicated there was an organization 'OEEV,' which meant 'Universal Association of Planets,' and that organization had a project 'EU' or 'EUENZA,' meaning 'Earth,' which was being conducted. Then, an unexpected turn took place. One Naval officer was informed by this woman 'they' were willing to answer questions directly through him—a Navy commander and intelligence officer—with no prior experience in telepathic communications. He took over, attempting to write down the answers to questions put to him by his associate Naval officer."

The word apparently traveled back quickly to Washington officials and a very skeptical CIA. Nevertheless, there

was no reason to totally disbelieve the report of this highly respected Navy commander.

Friend continued: It was in 1959 when I was invited to attend a meeting in the security portion of a Washington government building. I was briefed on an experiment that had been conducted with this same Naval commander before a group of CIA members and military personnel. It was described how after going into a trance the commander contacted a supposed extraterrestrial being. Several questions were put to him, and answers came back such as: 'Do you favor any government group or race?' and 'Would there be a third world war?' The answer to both was 'No.' 'Can we see a spaceship?' The commander, still in a trance, told the group to go to the window and they'd have proof. The group went to the window where they supposedly observed a UFO. I was told that a call was made for a radar confirmation. The reply was that that particular quadrant of the sky was blanked out on radar at that time.

"After being briefed on all the details, I then asked the Navy officer if he could attempt a contact for me. He sat for a few minutes, then appeared to be in a deep trance, with his Adam's apple moving up and down rapidly.

"Questions were put to him and he printed the answers in rather large letters, using rapid but jerky motions. It wasn't like a sample of his natural hand. During the course of questioning, we were told the name of some of these so-called extraterrestrials. One was 'CRILL,' another 'ALOMAR,' and another 'AFFA,' purportedly from the planet Uranus.

"Now you must realize all these men had security clearances and were highly respected members of the CIA. All were found to be highly credible and responsible professional government men.

"Afterward, I turned in my report. It was then that my

commanding general told me that as long as another government agency was investigating the case, we should drop it."

A case that just as well could have been written by a very imaginative science-fiction writer—but I have the actual account of the incident by one of the agents present at that time. The names of seven men present are listed, but because of the unusual nature of the incident and after talking to one of the CIA agents in Maryland, and at his request, their names will remain confidential.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

I. On 6 July 1959 Mr.——, Washington D.C., contacted Col.——concerning unidentified flying objects. Col.——informed Mr.—— . . . Major Friend—meeting set CIA 9 July 1959.

II. A. 1400, 9 July 1959, a meeting was held at the CIA, 5th and K Streets, N.W. Wash. . . .

B. Mr.——acted as Chairman and opened the meeting by generally discussing the UFO program and the part which CIA and ONI had taken to date. Specifically mentioned were the Mariana sighting August 1950 and the Tremonton sighting 2 July 1952. Both of these cases had physical ev. in form of pictures which eval. by Navy. [A discussion for 2 hours and then they finally got down to business.] At the end of 2 hour period asked whether Maj. Friend was open-minded concerning the program, the purpose of the meeting began to take shape.

C. As background information, Mr.——briefed Maj. Friend in a case investigated by the Navy in May-June of 1954. This case concerns a Mrs. S—— of South Berwick, Maine, who reported to the Navy through Rear Admiral K——of South Berwick that

she was in contact with space persons. Mrs. S—— method of contact is to think a question and by completely relaxing with a pencil in her hand, some unknown force controls the hand and writes the answer. It was also pointed out that the Canadian government had conducted an extensive investigation of Mrs. S——claim. A complete file of this case is in the office of ——ONI. At this point, Mr.——turned the discussion over to Cmdr.——.

D. Cmdr.——pointed out that during the latter part of June he and another Naval Officer had flown up to Maine and visited Mrs. S——for the purpose of witnessing a contact and to interview the lady. Mrs. S——, after the interview and contact, asked Cmdr.——why he didn't make a contact himself. The officer then tried, but was unsuccessful.

E. After his return to Wash. Cmdr.——was discussing the case with Mr.——and Lt. Cmdr.——at CIA. At the insistence of these two gentlemen he attempted another contact and was app. successful in receiving messages from *a person called AFFA, an inhabitant of the planet Uranus*. Cmdr.——would pen his question on a large sheet of paper (ques. put to him by other 2), relax, and some unknown force would guide his hand in writing the answers. During the time that the message is being transmitted——is subjected to very great physical strain. Of the many questions put to AFFA—some samples:

Q. Do you favor any government, religious group or race?

A. No, we do not. Signed AFFA.

Q. Will there be a third World War?

A. No. Signed AFFA.

Q. Are Catholics the chosen people?

A. No. Signed AFFA.

Q. Can we see a spaceship or flying saucer?

A. When do you want to see it? Signed AFFA.

Q. Can we see it now?

A. Go to the window. Signed AFFA.

(Mr.——, Cmdr.——and Lt. Cmdr.——all go to the window.)

Q. Are we looking in the right direction?

A. (Answered vocally.) Yes, signed AFFA.

At this time, approximately 1400, 6 July 1959, these three men saw what they have indicated was a flying saucer. They described the object as round, with the perimeter brighter than the center. Lt. Cmdr. ——checked with Washington Center (radar) and was informed that for some unkown reason radar return from the direction in which the ship was supposedly seen had been blocked out at the time of the sighting. During the exchange the answer to one of the questions indicated difficulty in penetrating our radar net (i.e. physical penetration of *our* radar net—slipping through it).

F. After the discussion and examination of the documents Major Friend requested Cmdr.—— attempt another contact. ——consented, but had only limited success. It was indicated in the few answers which he received that this was not the right time. However, it was further indicated that there was no objection to the audience.

G. Mr.——and all of the persons present indicated that they had known——for many years and that he has always been competent, quiet, reserved, and very conservative. They all attached significance to this experience due to the respect for Cmdr.——and the experience of Mr.——and Lt. Cmdr.——of seeing what they believed to be a spaceship.

H. On July 10, 1959, Maj. Friend in the company of Cmdr.——visited the office of——ONI to study the case file of Mrs. Swan. The record indicates that Mrs. Swan has been in touch with the following persons from the planet or (system):

AFFA—Uranus
CRILL—Jupiter
ALOMAR—Mercury
PONNAR—Mercury (wanted to leave human race alone to stew in its own juice):
ANKAR—Centaurus

The Navy indicates that through these contacts Mrs. S——has been able to answer technical questions beyond the level of her education or background. The case file contains records of some of the exchanges that Mrs. S——has had, and while there is some loose mention of how spaceships work and of what they are made, there was little of value. . . .—— indicated that the Canadians had exploited this scientific angle.

I. The S——record indicated that there was an organization OEEV which means the Universal Association of Planets, and that the organization has a project EU or Euenza (?) (earth) which is being conducted. What this project was to accomplish was not mentioned. The record indicated that the population of Jupiter was 787,730,016 and that the day was 7 times longer than an earth day (!) and that a day on Uranus was 10 times longer.

J. In discussion with——, he indicated there was no evidence which he felt was concrete enough for him to indicate action on this case. However, he did

suggest that specific questions be prepared and put to Mrs. S——if the Air Force plans to pursue the case further. Arrangements were also made for——to attempt to contact——and——on 11 July 1959. Maj. Friend requested that the ATIC be informed of the outcome.

I asked Friend what the eventual outcome was. He smiled, interlaced his fingers and leaned forward on his elbows. "Well, when a general tells a colonel to forget it—I forget it! Although I later found out that the witnesses that were present in that room that day have since been relocated or transferred to bases or other duty. To this day, it's an unresolved incident to me. I just don't know what to make of it . . . It seems totally unique in all my experience with investigations of UFOs."

11. SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO—1964

In 1964 a new element entered the official Air Force UFO records. Until 1964, only objects had been sighted and described. But in that year a remarkable observation was recorded, and the Air Force had to begin considering the possibility of beings, humanoids, piloting these UFOs.

It happened just outside of the quiet desert town of Socorro, New Mexico. On the afternoon of April 24, 1964, a state highway-patrol officer, Lonnie Zamora, was on duty, as he had been for the past several years. A black Chevrolet sped by the town courthouse. Zamora pursued in his highway patrol car, chasing the car north on U.S. 85. As he passed a hilly area, Zamora heard a roar, and something caught his attention—a flame in the sky ahead, about half a mile. The flame was bluish and orange and sort of motionless, Zamora reported. He decided to abandon the chase to investigate. Zamora turned off the main road and had trouble climbing the steep, gravelly hill. After three tries, he finally made it to the top and traveled slowly westward along the crest. Ten or fifteen seconds passed. Suddenly, he noted a shiny object about 150 or 200 yards off the road. His first thought was, "It looks like a car turned upside down." Lonnie then called in to the Sheriff's office.

The officer on duty took the call. "The time was about five-forty-five, I recall. He said, 'Socorro Two, possibly

ten-forty-four, an accident. I'll be ten-six,' which meant being out of the car, checking the car down in the arroyo. I could hear that he had stopped the car and started to get out."

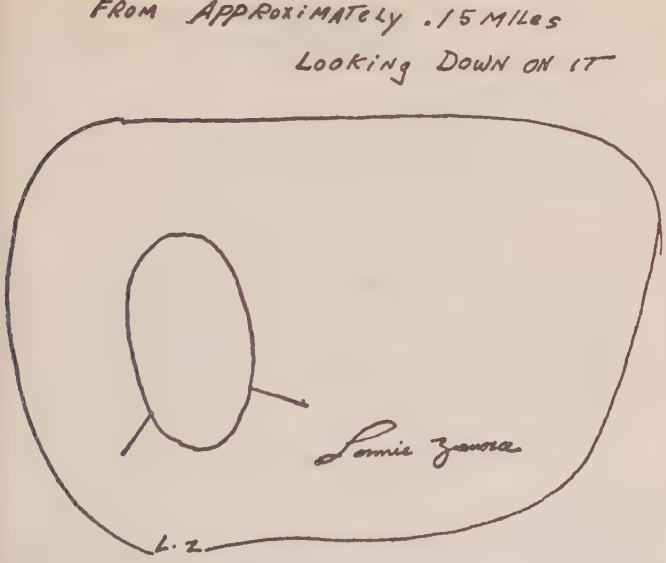
Zamora tells of the incident this way: "As I appoached the scene, I thought it was an overturned car—on end, sort of. As I finally got a look at it, it was a shiny-type object. The object was like aluminum—it was whitish against a moss background, but no chrome. Seemed like a football shape like this. I saw two pair of overalls."

One person seems to have turned and looked straight at Zamora's car. Zamora recalls they seemed startled and quickly jumped. At this time, Zamora moved closer with the idea of helping. As he approached, he heard a roar—very loud, but not like a jet. It started quickly, on a low frequency, then the roar rose in frequency to a higher pitch and then went from loud to very loud. As soon as he saw a flame and heard the roar, Zamora ran back to his vehicle, bumping his leg on the back fender; his glasses fell off. He continued to run. The object began to rise; now it was twenty feet high. "I ducked down," Zamora recalls, "and I ran over the hill."

Zamora describes the fear he felt: "I was scared of the roar. I turned back, at the same time covering my face with my arms. There was no roar now. I looked up and I saw the object going away from me. When the roar stopped, I heard a whine . . . then complete silence."

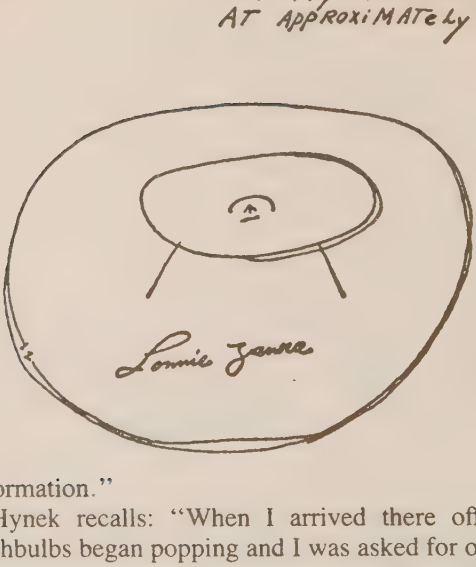
Zamora called in to the police station—apparently he was hysterical. As he spoke to the police radio operator, he watched the object lift up slowly and disappear rapidly in the distance.

Responding to Zamora's call, Sgt. Chavez arrived on the scene in his police car. Chavez's statement is in the record: "When I arrived, Zamora was sweating and white . . . very pale. I went down to where the object had been. I



noticed the brush was burning in several places. I could see the tracks on the ground. The object had left four perpendicular impressions in the ground. I noticed smoldering bushes, but they felt cold to the touch. I knew Lonnie had seen something—the proof was right there. Before I arrived, he had made a sketch of an insignia he saw on the side of the object. I secured the area and called the local military authorities."

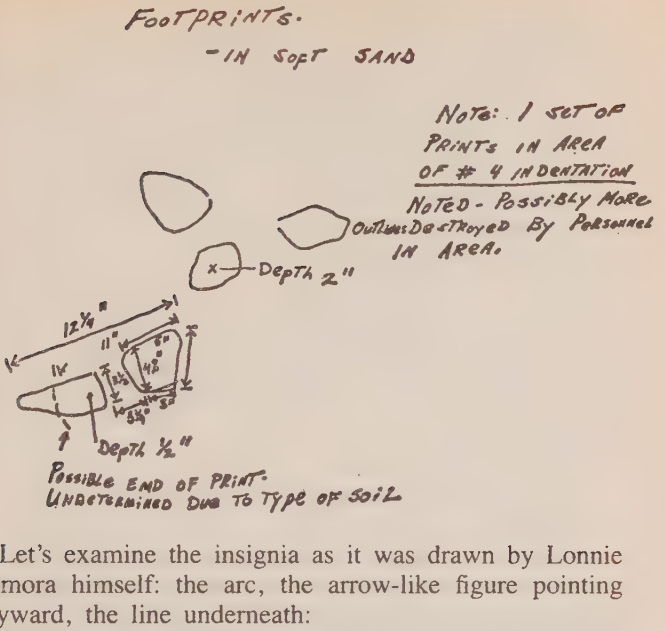
Quintanilla, who was in charge of investigating the case, gives us some background: "We were later informed that an FBI agent had been on the scene before us. By the time we arrived on the scene, the area was crowded with spectators and newsmen. They were all over the place. The area had been roped off but still the marks on the ground had been disturbed. I directed Dr. Hynek to Socorro to get additional



information."

Hynek recalls: "When I arrived there off the plane, flashbulbs began popping and I was asked for one interview after another, but I had just arrived and didn't know anything. I finally got the newsmen out of my hair when I finally interviewed Zamora, who was not very talkative.

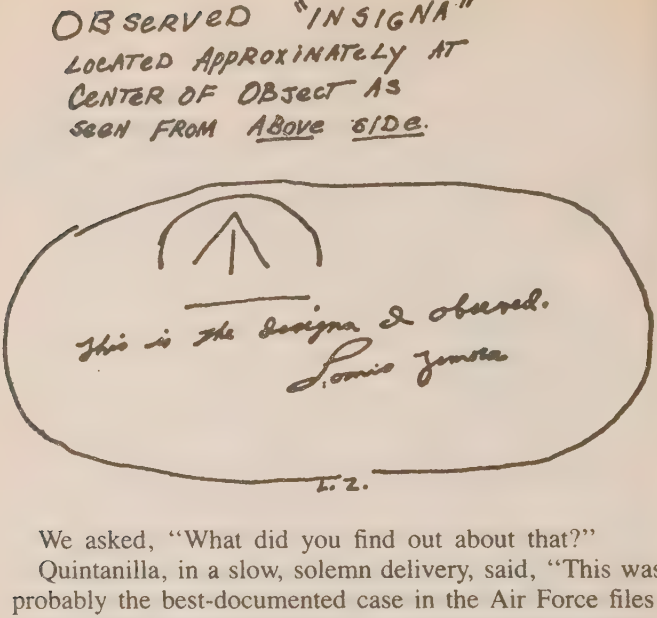
"I questioned an Art B—— of the FBI, and several others that had been here on the site within the first hours after the sighting, about the freshness of the tracks. They were all of the opinion that the tracks were indeed fresh. [See photos] The incident was very interesting. It seems to differ from practically all the earlier cases we investigated from one standpoint. The vehicle left pod marks. There was an insignia observed by Lonnie Zamora on the side of the craft, which I'll go into in a minute—but the insignia was very interesting and unidentifiable, not American nor Russian [See photos] and last of all, the observation of these two people in some sort of suit."



Let's examine the insignia as it was drawn by Lonnie Zamora himself: the arc, the arrow-like figure pointing skyward, the line underneath:

This then, would be the first officially reported insignia on a UFO, and the first account of people associated with an object. Zamora recalls that he thought them to be "kids" or "small adults" in white overalls. But what did the investigation turn up? What was the official Air Force estimation of the situation?

Quintanilla shook his head, recalling the incident as if it were like "the one that got away." "Well, we went over the case pretty completely. We had soil samples tested at the Air Materiel Lab. The burnt bushes were analyzed for propellant residue. We measured the distances between pod marks. There were even footprints left on the ground. My first reaction was that it was a lunar test module from NASA or the Air Force—that seemed the only logical explanation."



We asked, "What did you find out about that?"

Quintanilla, in a slow, solemn delivery, said, "This was probably the best-documented case in the Air Force files, and I checked it out everywhere. All the way up to the top, even the White House Command Post . . . and nothing, nothing. I wish I could put my finger on it . . . although to this day, I'm not convinced that it was anything extraterrestrial."

The official record card of the sighting by Lonnie Zamora concludes, "Initially believed to be observation of Lunar module type configuration. Effort to date cannot place vehicle at site. Case carried as UNIDENTIFIED pending additional data."

Four months after the incident, on Saturday, August 15, Dr. Hynek returned to Socorro. Parts of his written report follow:

"The object of this visit was to obtain an overview of the feelings and opinions in Socorro about the Zamora sighting of April 24th, after several months had passed, and to find out if the principals had any afterthoughts or changes which they wished to make in their story, how they were now regarded by the townfolk, and what if any, was the official opinion.

The net results of the visit—which involved talking once again with Zamora, Sergeant Chavez, Captain Holder, the editor of the local paper, and seven other townspeople—was much the same as before. Zamora, if anything, is more reticent and withdrawn. The more articulate Sgt. Chavez still firmly believes in Zamora's story, and I found no contradictions between his partial retelling of his story and the original telling of his story in late April. Although I made a distinct attempt to find a chink in Zamora's armor, I simply couldn't find anyone, with the possible exception of a Mr. Phillips who has a house fairly near the site of the original sighting, who did anything but completely uphold Zamora's character and reliability, and I again talked with people who had known him since childhood.

I revisited the site: the markings are still there, but very much obliterated, and this time I was able to take stereo photographs of the general terrain. I was impressed more than before with the illogical nature of the landing site.

Hynek went to great pains to uncover any forgotten clues. His interviews were exhaustive, and he left no stones unturned. Before leaving Socorro, he visited the site again: his report concludes:

I visited the site and took some more samples, particularly of the sap, and I took a few more

pictures, particularly of the dynamite shack [near the site] to show Menzel.

In view of the fact that the prevailing opinion in the town still is that what Zamora saw was not the result of hallucinations or of a hoax, but a secret test vehicle, what has become of my suggestion to have this left as "an exercise for the students?" It would be a marvelous exercise for neophyte intelligence officers.

There is also the opinion expressed in Socorro, and expressed to me a number of times in the past, by several people (and also by LaPaz) that I am merely a part of a super-smokescreen, as so is FTD [Air Force] and Wright Field, and that the whole Project Blue Book is a grand cover-up for something the government does not want discussed. Best way to give the lie to this, of course, is to point out that if this were the case, the US government should also have been responsible for the sightings in France, Brazil, Spain, and in England. Maybe the US government has really gone global!

On that happy thought I conclude my report.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. Allen Hynek

P.S. I now have a slightly infected finger from the thorns on the bush that was originally charred. The bush drew blood when I attemped to get some soil samples. Undoubtedly, the finger will now wither away from radiation burns. Unfortunately, I do not have interplanetary Blue Cross coverage!

Just as before, following the sightings in Washington, D.C., government concern all the way up to the White House was mounting over the sightings. FTD (Foreign

Technology Division, which is the headquarters for UFO investigations) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base was feeling the pressure, as expressed in this internal memo:

> Numerous inquiries concerning Air Force investigation and evaluation of the recent UFO sighting at Socorro, New Mexico, 24 April, continue to be received from news media, from the Office of the President, and Members of Congress. This HQ is unable to respond properly pending receipt of your conclusions. Request appropriate action be taken to insure that reports of personnel assigned to investigate and evaluate the sighting be completed and forwarded immediately.

Under this pressure, the Air Force authorized a public statement which concluded:

> The following statement by Captain Hector Quintanilla represents a statement which may be released to the press:
>
> Conclusion: The investigators at Wright-Patterson have not been able to identify or determine what type of vehicle or object Mr. Lonnie Zamora observed on 24 April at Socorro, New Mexico. The object or vehicle displayed flight characteristics well within the State-of-the-Art and the sighting cannot be attributed to atmospheric or astronomical phenomena. In this respect, I can categorically state that the vehicle or object observed by Mr. Lonnie Zamora was not an inter-planetary space vehicle visiting the planet Earth. This case is still open and the investigation is still in progress.

Hector Quintanilla was determined, come hell or high water, all through his career as Blue Book head, to nail a conclusion on each case—a conclusion that seemed logical to him and that would explain away each UFO sighting. It's this writer's opinion that it was entirely outside his single-purposed military mind and Catholic upbringing to consider anything else. In meetings in early 1974, however, in the presence of his more liberal-minded associates, he appeared to have mellowed a little, and was willing not to deny the possibility of extraterrestrial life in the universe.

How did this incident affect Lonnie Zamora? "Zamora had his troubles," replies Hynek. "Zamora stopped a teenage speeder, and the kid fired back at Zamora: 'What are you giving me a ticket for? Don't you know a flying saucer might come down on you any minute?' You may say that this strengthens the hoax hypothesis, but on the other hand it is a perfectly natural remark for kids to make to a man held up to ridicule for having 'seen things.'"

Hynek believes in Zamora: "I come back also to the trenchant fact that Zamora was a thoroughly scared person. Chavez has remarked this to me a number of times, that never in his long association with Zamora has he seen him in anything at all approaching the state he was in when Chavez joined him. Zamora is used to accidents, bloodshed, fights, and even murders. We all seem to agree that Zamora saw something that really and truly frightened him." Hynek observes that Zamora was not overly bright or articulate, but basically honest and sincere. "He was simply a cop on duty who relinquished one discharge of that duty (chasing a speeding car) for another which he thought was of more immediate importance (investigating the possible explosion of a dynamite shack). His fright was genuine, and

his feeling that he had seen something truly unusual is attested by the fact that he asked whether he should speak to the priest first before saying anything about it. He is a cop who looks as though he could be pretty gruff with his customers, and in fact, his complaint about the UFO sighting was that . . . it did not allow him to give out his full quota of tickets for the day."

It was later found that "at least one other person—an unidentified tourist traveling north on U.S. 85—saw the UFO just before it landed in a gully. Opel Grinder, manager of Whitting Brothers' Service Station on 85 North, said the man stopped at the station and remarked that aircraft flew low around here. Grinder replied that there were many helicopters in this vicinity, and the tourist said, 'It was a funny looking helicopter, if that's what it was.' The man said further that the object had flown over his car. It actually was headed straight for the gully, where it landed moments later. The tourist also commented that he had seen a police car heading up the hill. That was apparently Zamora's car."

It is too bad that the witness wasn't found—this person, backing up Zamora's story, might have spared him some of the ridicule he endured: ridicule which unfortunately had its effects on his future. After five years of good hard service for the police force, Zamora quit and took up another way of life, running a gas station. Today he's very reluctant to talk about the sighting. In fact, he implied that if it happened again, he wouldn't tell another human soul about it, no matter what.

12. DEXTER / HILLSDALE, MICHIGAN—1966

In 1966, an important UFO incident took place in Michigan. Dr. Hynek and the Air Force created enough of an uproar with their explanation of the phenomenon that then-congressman Gerald Ford called for a congressional hearing on UFOs. Here is the letter from Ford to the House Armed Services Committee:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
OFFICE OF THE MINORITY LEADER,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D.C., March 28, 1966.

Representative L. MENDEL RIVERS,
Chairman, Armed Services Committee,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR CHAIRMAN RIVERS: No doubt you have noted the recent flurry of newspaper stories about unidentified flying objects (UFOs). I have taken special interest in these accounts because many of the latest reported sightings have been in my home State of Michigan.

The Air Force sent a consultant, Astrophysicist Dr. J. Allen Hynek of Northwestern University, to Michigan to investigate the various reports; and he dis-

missed all of them as the product of college student pranks or swamp gas or of an impression created by the rising crescent moon and the planet Venus. I do not agree that all of these reports can be or should be so easily explained away.

Because I think there may be substance to some of these reports and because I believe the American people are entitled to a more thorough explanation than has been given them by the Air Force to date, I am proposing that either the Science and Astronautics Committee or the Armed Services Committee of the House schedule hearings on the subject of UFOs and invite testimony from both the executive branch of the Government and some of the persons who claim to have seen UFOs

I enclose material which I think will be helpful to you in assessing the advisability of an investigation of UFOs.

May I first call to your attention a column by Roscoe Drummond, published last Sunday in which Mr. Drummond says, "Maybe all of these reported sightings are whimsical, imaginary or unreal; but we need a more credible and detached appraisal of the evidence than we are getting."

Mr. Drummond goes on to state, "We need to get all the data drawn together in one place and examined far more objectively than anyone has done so far. A stable public opinion will come from a trustworthy look at the evidence, not from belittling it.

"The time has come for the President or Congress to name an objective and respected panel to investigate, appraise, and report on all present and future evidence about what is going on."

I agree fully with Mr. Drummond's statements. I also suggest you scan the enclosed series of six articles by Bulkley Griffin of the Griffin-Larrabee News Bureau here. In the last of his articles, published last January, Mr. Griffin says, "A main conclusion can be briefly stated. It is that the Air Force is misleading the public by its continuing campaign to produce and maintain belief that all sightings can be explained away as misidentification of familiar objects, such as balloons, stars, and aircraft."

I have just today received a number of telegrams urging a congressional investigation of UFOs. One is from retired Air Force Col. Harold R. Brown, Ardmore, Tenn., who says, "I have seen UFO. Will be available to testify."

Another, from Mrs. Ethyle M. Davis, Eugene, Oreg., reads, "9 out of 10 people want truth of UFOs. Press your investigation to the fullest."

Ronald Colier of Los Angeles, who identifies himself as "a scientist from MIT," urges that you "do everything in your power to make Air Force Project Blue Book (the Air Force name for its study and verdicts on UFO reports) known to the people." Are we to assume that everyone who says he has seen UFOs is an unreliable witness?

A UPI story out of Ann Arbor, Mich., dated March 21, 1966, states that "at least 40 persons, including 12 policemen, said today that they saw a strange flying object guarded by 4 sister ships land in a swamp near here Sunday night."

Matt Surrell of Station WJR, Detroit, cites an eye witness account of a recent UFO sighting by Emile Grenier of Ann Arbor, and aeronautical engineer

employed by Ford Motor Co. He points out that an aeronautical engineer can hardly be considered an untrustworthy witness.

In the firm belief that the American public deserves a better explantion than that thus far given by the Air Force, I strongly recommend that there be a committee investigation of the UFO phenomena.

I think we owe it to the people to establish credibility regarding UFOs and to produce the greatest possible enlightenment on this subject.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

GERALD R. FORD, *Member of Congress.*

Congress acted on Ford's letter and held an open hearing under the chairmanship of L. Mendel Rivers, of the House Armed Services Committee.

Only three persons were invited to testify: the Secretary of the Air Force; Dr. J. Allen Hynek; and Project Blue Book head at the time, Colonel Hector Quintanilla.

Colonel Quintanilla, pointing to a map of the Dexter, Michigan, area, talked about the events that prompted the congressional hearing:

"There were two sightings—one at Hillsdale, the other here in Dexter. Based on the original reports from the Sheriff's Department, it began at 8:35 P.M. on March 20, when Frank Mannor called the sheriff's office and reported a strange object in the swamp at the end of this road."

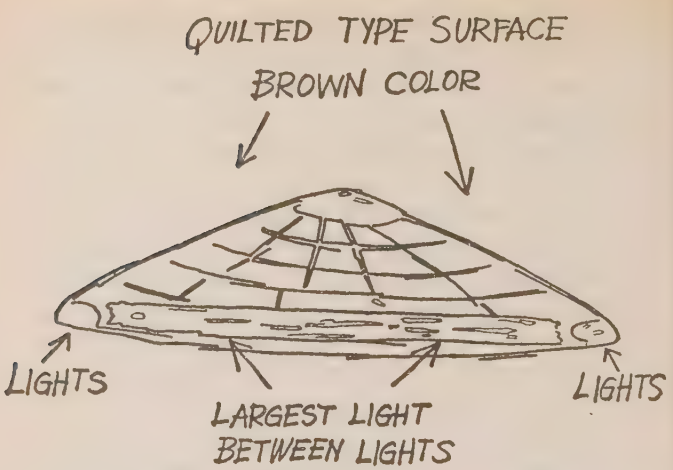
When the sheriff's officer arrived, Mannor said the UFO was presently located in the swamp, to the rear, where he had seen it for a half hour—the object would rise to an altitude of approximately five hundred feet, then return to the ground. The lighting turned from blue-green to a brilliant red to yellow in coloring. The object appeared to be

having difficulty getting off the ground. Quintanilla said: "Frank Mannor and his son reported they had been in these woods and swamps trying to locate the object to see what it was."

The Sheriff's Department report reads:

> In the company of the complainant, I proceeded along Dexter-Pinckney Road to Territorial Road, turned onto Quigley Road . . . where a vantage point was obtained . . . being in direct line with the house. At this point, vehicle was secured and we proceeded into the woods in attempt to locate the swamp edge and the object.
>
> While in the woods area, a brilliant light was observed, from the far edge of the woods. Upon approaching, the light dimmed in brilliance. As the aforementioned approached the upper ridge and edge of the woods, the brilliant light again appeared, and then disappeared. A continued search of area was conducted with negative result.
>
> Upon returning to the patrol vehicle, the undersigned officers were informed that one of the objects had been hovering directly over the area where our flashlight beams had been seen and had then departed in a west direction of flight at high rate of speed.

Quintanilla continued with the case's background: "A talk with Frank Mannor revealed a description of the object: Object was observed to be of brown coloring, appearing to be a quilted-type outside surface. Object appeared to be flat upon the bottom and cone-shaped toward the top—however, being low in height with what appeared to be a porthole in the center. Two small lights appeared to be at the outer edges of the object, glowing in a bluish-green light



and intensifying to a brilliant red in color. Other reports seem to back Mannor's report."

Shortly after the UFO left the Dexter area, the Chelsea Police Department reported a similar object over the village of Chelsea, hovering and then departing at a high rate of speed. Patrolman Robert Huniwell reported, "The flying objects I saw had red and green flashing lights and one zipped down to hover within ten feet of my police patrol car. When it rose again, it was joined by a similar objects."

Sheriff Douglas J. Harvey, a disbeliever at first, said, "I didn't believe the reports, either, but with so many trained police personnel and reliable citizens having seen them, I must believe something is in the country skies."

Adding more credibility to this were letters like this from a ten-year veteran of the Milan Police Department, in which patrolman John Stewart tells of a craft that followed his patrol car. When he tried to radio the Sheriff's office,

> . . . I was unable to use the radio. . . .The craft continued about 75 feet above me for about a half

mile. It looked like a huge pie, well lighted with red, blue, and white lights spinning completely around it.

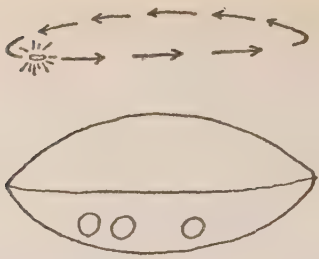
Quintanilla added, "Because of the large number of reports from seemingly reputable sources, I requested Dr. Hynek to come to the scene to begin investigating these cases."

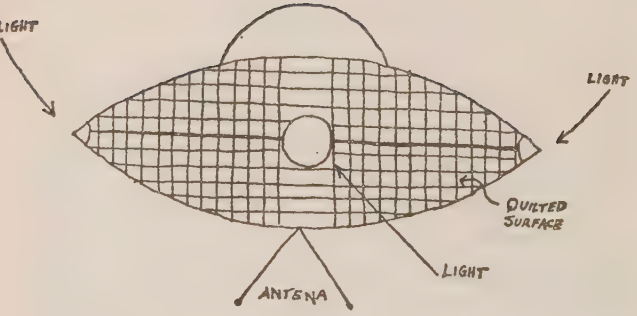
Hynek recalled, "Of course, by the time I arrived, the situation was so charged with emotion that it was impossible for me to do any really serious investigating. I had to fight my way through reporters to interview the witnesses. The police were madly chasing stars they thought to be flying saucers. People believed space ships were all over the area."

The pressure for some explanation was mounting. Other sightings were reported over the area, and a solution was expected from Dr. Hynek and Major Quintanilla. News reports started going out over all the stations: "Major Hector Quintanilla of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base said earlier today that the Air Force hoped to come up with a reasonable explanation of the object within the next twenty-four hours." . . . "Dr. J. Allen Hynek, a Northwestern University astrophysicist, called the conference after spending almost a week interviewing people in the Ann Arbor and Hillsdale areas, where most of the sightings have originated."

The newspapers were filled with stories of reported sightings. This article in the Journal Herald on March 24, 1966, typified the interest that was building:

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—(UPI)—The top Air Force expert on unidentified flying objects said yesterday recent reports of a glowing object seen throughout





southern Michigan are "more consistent" than most he has investigated.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek of Northwestern University, chief scientific adviser for the Air Force Project Blue Book, refused to speculate, however, on what might be behind the rash of UFO sightings in recent days.

Hynek, dressed in fatigues and hip boots for his close-up look at a swamp near Dexter, Mich., where a farmer reported the ghost ship landed Sunday night, said, "I'm still gathering the facts."

Hynek has been in the area since Tuesday, inter-

viewing witnesses and examining areas where the object was reported. His investigation has been carried on behind Air Force secrecy but he made yesterday's comments when encountered at the Dexter police station where he was questioning the police chief and several officers.

"It's like reports from people who saw a fire," the goateed astrophysicist said. "You get as many different facts as you get people who saw the fire. So far, all I've been able to come up with is reports of a variety of lights. These reports are more consistent than most of the other sightings I've investigated," he said.

Hynek said, "I wish we had some photographs of this and more technical observers. The ideal situation would be to have a spectrograph trained on the object to determine its makeup. I wish we had them available.

"Frequently these things turn out to be usual things seen under unusual circumstances," he said.

Rep. Weston E. Vivian of the Second Congressional District, pushed by the area residents for an explanation, was open in expressing his concern for action. Here is an excerpt from the Ann Arbor *News* in Michigan:

Rep. Weston E. Vivian of the Second Congressional District told Sheriff Douglas J. Harvey late yesterday he will make an official inquiry of the Defense Department and the Air Force today concerning the unidentified flying objects.

Harvey had told the Ann Arbor Congressman that he had been ignored in repeated attempts to contact federal officials about the sightings.

Vivian said the incidents "certainly should be looked into by the U.S. Government."

Congressman Vivian's frustration was not to be abated. This internal Air Force communication indicates Vivian's persistence:

FROM: FTD, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
TO: AFSC, Andrews AFB, Md
INFO: USAF, Wash, D C
Unclass FM TDEW/UFO 14644 March 1966.
For SAFOI-CC, for SCFA (Major Gregory).

Confirming telecon between Maj Gregory (SCFA) and Maj Quintanilla (TDEW). Congressman Vivian (Michigan) called Maj Quintanilla on 24 March 1966 at 1120 hours and requested that Maj Quintanilla inform him of any press conference regarding UFOs which would be held by Dr. J. Allen Hynek. Congressman Vivian requested that he be advised at least three hours prior to the press conference. SAFOI-CC was advised of Congressman Vivian's conversation and they said that they would handle the situation. On 28 March at 1520 hours Congressman Vivian called Maj Quintanilla and immediately asked why he had not been advised of Dr. Hynek's press conference. Maj Quintanilla informed the congressman that SAFOI was to advise him of the press conference. Congressman Vivian became quite curt and asked for SAFOI's phone number. Congressman Vivian then asked if Maj Quintanilla had a degree and if so in what field. Maj Quintanilla replied that he had a BS in physics. Congressman Vivian then asked how long Maj Quintanilla had been in charge of Project Blue Book. The major replied that he had been in charge

for 32 months. Congressman Vivian then asked to whom Maj Quintanilla reported and he replied that he reported to Col Eric T. De Jonckheere. Congressman then asked to whom Col De Jonchkeere reported and Maj Quintanilla replied that he reported to B/G Cruikshank. Congressman Vivian asked who assisted Maj Quintanilla in investigations. Major replied that Sgt Moody assists and has a degree in psychology with 24 hours of post-graduate work. Maj Quintanilla informed Congressman Vivian that other branches of the Air Force assist us. Congressman Vivian requested that he be sent the number of personnel working on the project and what their qualifications were, and in what manner reporting is done.

(Signed) Major H. Quintanilla, Jr.
29 Mar 66

On the local news programs, the anticipation was growing and news flashes were heard throughout the day: "You are reminded that Secretary of State Rusk's news conference, originally set for 10:30 A.M., has been postponed until noon." Moments before the conference, it was decided to delay again: "The Air Force now says the news conference in Detroit on reports of UFOs will not begin until 2:00 P.M. Originally it had been set for 1:00 P.M."

The time arrived. Dr. Hynek, seated behind a battery of microphones, looking alert and prepared, was ready to make his statement. He now recalls, "The pressure was mounting for an official explanation. There were more than sixty newsmen jammed in at the news conference. I gave what I thought at that time to be the only scientific explanation possible—I qualified everything that I said then in reference to the reported red, yellow, and green lights seen by the coeds in Hillsdale. I made the statement it was

'swamp gas,' and even though I went on to emphasize that I couldn't prove it in a court of law, that that was the full explanation. Well, the press picked up the words 'swamp gas' even before I had finished the conference and that was all that you heard or read about in the media for weeks."

The press challenged Hynek and took the case to the public in articles such as this from the Daily News.

UFO Spotters Insist "Saucer"

FORD DEMANDS CONGRESS PROBE

DETROIT, Mar. 26—An expert's opinion that some of Michigan's unidentified flying objects (UFO) probably were swamp gases may have convinced the Air Force but not the people who saw them.

"I'm no professor, and I'm not as educated as him, but I think he's all wrong," Mrs. Frank Mannor said of Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

House Republican Leader Gerald R. Ford (Mich.) also is unhappy.

He has proposed that a committee of Congress investigate UFOs over southern Michigan and other parts of the nation.

Ford is apparently dissatisfied at the Air Force investigations because they have either brushed the reports aside as delusions or they "have come up with nothing conclusive."

Ford says the American people "are becoming alarmed by the UFO stories.

"In the light of these new sightings and incidents,"said Ford, "it would be a very wholesome thing for a committee of the Congress to conduct a number of hearings . . ."

Hynek, Northwestern University astrophysicist and scientific consultant for the Air Force, told a news conference yesterday that sightings made on two specific days probably stemmed from swamp gases.

He said his study was confined to sightings made near Dexter Mar. 20 by the Mannor family and by officers, and at Hillsdale by 87 college coeds and the county civil defense director.

Dexter, a small community, is about 50 miles southwest of Detroit. Hillsdale is about 100 miles west.

Hynek said a photograph taken by a sherriff's deputy Mar. 16 near Milan, several miles south of Dexter, showed the rising crescent moon and the planet Venus. The deputy said the two streaks of brilliant light on the photograph, identified by Hynek as the planets, were captured on film by his camera in a time exposure as he observed what he considered to be unidentified flying objects.

Numerous UFO sightings have been reported in Michigan, especially the southern lower portion, in recent weeks, many of them by law officers. Hynek said he did not investigate these because large enough groups had not witnessed them.

He said both the sightings he did investigate were in swampy areas—"most unlikely place for a visit from outer space"—and said the UFOs probably resulted from spring thaws releasing trapped gases resulting from decomposing organic materials.

He added that in the Hillsdale case the sighting might have been assisted by youths playing "pranks with flares." The remains of several flares were found near the college shortly after the sightings.

"There were no flares involved in this," said

William Van Horn, Hillsdale county civil defense director. He and the Hillsdale college coeds reported watching a white and red object—about 20 feet across—from dormitory windows for nearly three hours.

"I think I will disprove him (Hynek) in a few weeks," Van Horn said. "I also didn't care for the methods of investigation. I know no flares were involved."

Ford was to have his way, and the congressional hearings took place. I asked Hector Quintanilla what the outcome of that congressional hearing was. He smiled and summed it up this way:

"I believe the Air Force presented its side quite openly and completely—it seemed to satisfy the members of the committee. We went over the Air Force's primary concern for national security and expressed our belief that there was no threat there, nor was there any reason or evidence that disproved any of our evaluations or conclusions resulting from our UFO investigations. In essence, we seemed to ease their minds of any concern that the Air Force wasn't properly handling the UFO matter."

Hynek spoke up, trying to give a perspective on the past: "In those days, there was terrific pressure to button up these cases. We were interested in finding the most plausible and logical explanation arrived at from what scientific knowledge we had at the time."

I added, "I guess we could imagine the public's reaction if you were to state that the US Government is even considering these UFOs as extraterrestrial vehicles—here probably to observe earth and its inhabitants."

"Quite right," nodded Dr. Hynek. Then, pulling his chair forward to the conference table, he added: "Don't

forget—the real interest the military had was primarily the national security of this country. As to any theories of little green men, this was outside the immediate assignment."

I retorted with, "And apparently the Air Force did its job well—we haven't as yet been attacked by the swamp-gas monsters either, at least not that I know of."

Hynek just smiled in reply.

In the Air Force file on this case were two rather interesting letters written to Dr. Hynek. They are well worth considering; they must have given Dr. Hynek something other than gas to think about. The first was quoted earlier.

Milan Police Department
147 Wabash Street
Milan, Michigan
Office of Police Chief
March 29, 1966

Dr. Allen Hynek
Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois
Dear Dr. Hynek:

Being a member of this police department and having sighted a flying object over Milan at 4:40 A.M. on March 17th as well as March 20th which I feel is something besides swamp gas, I thought I would write you and describe this directly to you.

While on routine patrol of Milan at the above dates, I was stopping for a traffic light in the center of the business area and glanced up to the southwest and noticed what first appeared to be a small plane maybe in trouble and was lowering itself above the store buildings and above my patrol car. At this point I listened for motor noise and failed to hear any. I tried

to radio Washtenaw County Sheriff's Dept. for information on this craft but while it hovered above my car I was unable to use my police radio. This craft continued to fly at about 75 feet above me for about ½ mile across town and then disappeared at a very high speed. It looked like a very huge pie and was very well lighted with red, blue, and white lights spinning completely around it. I have been a police officer for more than 10 years and have never seen anything so fantastic. This was on March 17th, and on March 20th a similar object came so close to my car and glowed so brightly that I had to stop the car and get out of it before I could see again.

Our police department has been called at different times about high flying lights, but those I am in doubt about; but the ones I have seen are very different and are not stars or planets flying at such low altitudes.

I have followed this in newspapers for some time and would like to hear from you in regard to same. I also felt sure that you would contact me after the sighting over Milan and having contacted Washtenaw County Sheriff's Dept. and they having photos of the same object from a higher altitude.

Please believe me this is something far beyond flying stars or planets and swamp gas even though the gas may be responsible for some of the sightings.

Please let me hear from you regarding this matter and (I) would be happy to meet you in person if that would be at all possible.

Thank you for reading this and will look to hear from you very soon.

Very truly yours;
(signed) John H. Stewart—Patrolman

And this one, from a woman in a southeastern state who prefers to remain anonymous:

March 24, 1966

Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Chairman
Dearborn Observatory
Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois
Dear Dr. Hynek:

Enclosed is a copy of a record that I have made of the sighting of a UFO on the night of February 2, 1966, by my husband and me. At the time we sighted the object, my husband asked me not to report it, because of the general skeptical attitude of the public concerning a UFO sighting. Also, we did not know to whom it should be reported. But he did suggest that I make a record of the sighting while it was still fresh in my mind.

Since that time, I have been trying to convince myself that I did not see what I saw, and I have been trying to come up with some reasonable explanation for it, since I had not previously believed in "flying saucers." But after reading about the recent sightings in Michigan, I am convinced that the object I saw is of the same type as those seen in Michigan. I realize, of course, that since the newspapers have reported the sightings (which, incidentally, is where I got your name), that you will be swamped with reports of UFOs from all over the country. But I decided to report this anyhow, since I have felt a burden of responsibility ever since I saw the object. It has seemed to me all along that someone should be informed about the object's being in this area.

And that is what puzzles me—what is there in this

area that anyone would be interested in observing? There is, directly behind our house, a 300-feet-high micro-wave tower that is used by the State Highway Patrol; about a quarter of a mile north of us a big building is under construction by the Cannon Mill Company; directly across from that is the Carolina Tuff-Lite Company, which has dug out large craters in the ground. Other than these items, there is nothing of interest in the area.

It is immaterial to me as to whether this report will be considered valid or not; I have done what I feel should be done by reporting it. However, if you care to use any of the information in the report you may do so, but I cannot give you permission to use our names. I plan to start teaching school in another year, and this would hurt my chances of getting a contract. Also, we have a child who would be adversely affected by the sarcastic comments from her playmates.

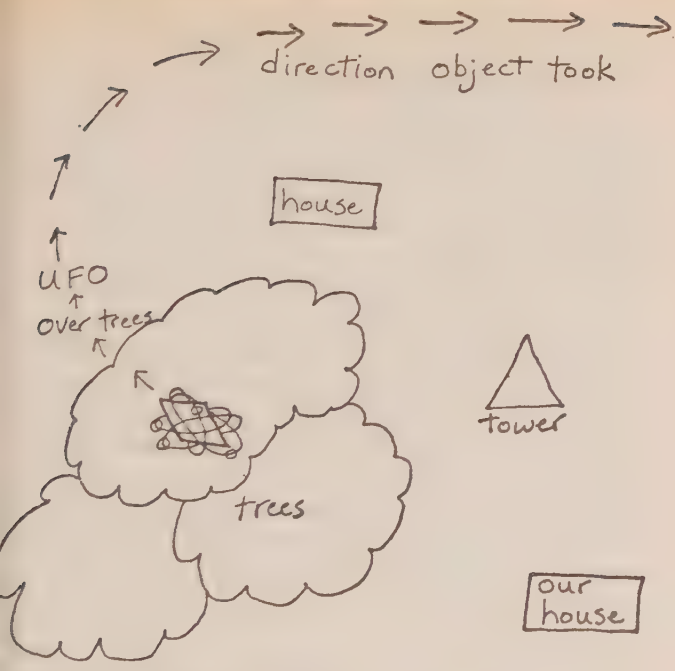
If there is any further information that I can possibly give you, please feel free to write. But as I have requested, please do not use our names in any reports or publications.

Sincerely,
(name omitted as requested)

P.S. Below I have sketched the layout of our lot, the tower and the house behind us, near which are the trees over which the object hovered. Incidentally, there are no swamps in this area of the state.

February 3, 1966

On the night of February 2, 1966, I saw an unidentified flying object. I turned out the lights and

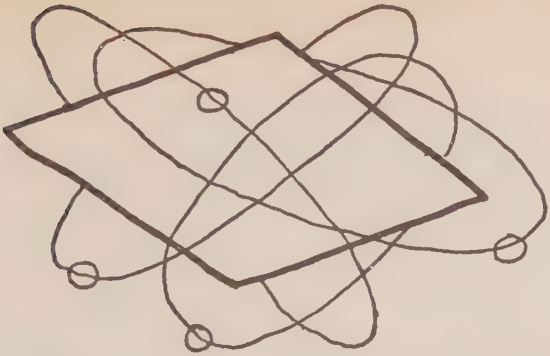


went to bed shortly after 11:15 P.M. A couple of minutes after retiring, I heard a dog barking loudly behind our house. Upon opening the curtain to look out, I saw a strange object hovering over the trees in the yard of a house behind us.

The object is difficult to describe, for it was in a tremendous state of activity, while hovering in the same place. It never remained absolutely still, but kept moving gently back and forth, yet hovering in the same spot. It seemed to be of a silver-colored material, but there were small objects, resembling balls in constant motion around it, circling around it at a tremendous speed, as if in orbit around the object.

The object emitted a great deal of light, which changed colors about five times as quickly as an ordinary light can be switched on and off. The predominant colors that I could distinguish were red, green, and white, but it was never just one single color; it was a mixture of these colors constantly flashing. The colors seemed to be coming from the objects whirling around the central, silver-colored object. The main object seemed to be of a diamond shape, with the ball-shaped objects whirling in an orbit around it. The balls were not all whirling in the same path; they each had a different path from the others. I would estimate that there were approximately a dozen of these round objects. There also seemed to be little explosions shooting out from the object. These also produced a gread deal of light and color. I was fascinated by the tremendous amount of activity going on around the object. Below is a rough sketch of the object, which I have copied from the sketch I made last night.

The object hovered in the same position for approximately three or four minutes. Then suddenly it moved in the direction away from me (to the Northeast). The speed with which it moved was so rapid that I could not begin to estimate it. Nor could I estimate the size of the object, since I do not know how far up in the sky it was, although the area over which it hovered is only about 300 feet from our bedroom window. The object began to get farther and farther away. About this time (11:50 P.M.) my husband came home from work. He located the binoculars and we used them to watch the object, which had, by this time, gradually swerved to the East, making a large, sweeping curve. It was too late for my husband to see



the shape of the object, but he did see the explosions and the changes in light and colors. We watched the object until 1 A.M.

I do not know what the object was, but I hereby swear that I saw the object as described, and I have described it to the best of my ability.

13. THE LAST CASE—1969

In the year 1969, the Air Force investigated its last Blue Book case. The file of this case is interesting because the witness is a NASA employee and a man familiar with spacecraft and their designs. He was to describe a UFO closely similar to the one described by Chiles and Whitted in 1948. A second part of his description was also of interest: the sounds he described resembled the impressions other witnesses were giving to the press across the United States all throughout 1973 and 1974. At the witness's request his name will be kept confidential.

The incident is officially referred to in the Air Force files as AF117-AFR80-17 CI. The man who had the encounter is Mr. L——, a test facility mechanic for NASA at the Air Force's Langley Field in Virginia. His home is in Crittenden, Virginia. It was early morning on January 17, 1969. The witness and his wife had been sleeping soundly when he was awakened by a strong and unusual sound.

He recalls he had been asleep since 10:30 P.M. Early the following morning—3:24 by his watch—he first noticed a whirring sound. It was "similar to the hum of an electric motor or transformer going bad." The witness says the sound changed volume from very loud to what he calls "normal" or lower, and then to loud again. He started to pull himself out of bed and recalls questioning out loud:

"What in the world is that?" The witness turned to his wife and asked if she could hear the sound too. Half asleep, she nevertheless said she could. Getting up he went to the bedroom window, a few feet away, and looked out between the venetian-blind slats. He looked in the direction of the sound a few seconds before an object slowly came into sight. The object was clearly in view directly outside and above the level of his window; he estimated the angle as about 45 degrees. While continuing to watch through the window, he asked his wife to come and look, but apparently she did not hear him, since his back was to her and the noise from the object was quite loud. He first viewed the object from the underside as he looked up at it. The bottom of the object appeared somewhat elliptical or cigar-shaped with "blunt ends." Its altitude, he estimated, was between 100 and 150 feet, and its size was thirty feet wide and one hundred feet long (although the witness feels that it might have been as much as one-third smaller, depending on its actual altitude). It was traveling slowly—perhaps twenty-five miles per hour at the time, according to him.

The witness could clearly see the structure and light formations on the bottom of the object. It was ringed with what he calls "windows" through which he could see "steady amber-colored lights"—a description that pilots Chiles and Whitted had reported about twenty years earlier. However, one "window" light, in the right rear, blinked a steady pulse. The witness felt that the light might have been blinking in synchronization with the varying pitch of the sound. The lights or "windows" ringed the bottom of the object; they were rectangular and separated by "dividers." The "windows" were "semi-transparent" or translucent. He could not see through them, but the light could shine through them. The lights also appeared to be surrounded by a "glow" or "haze." The lights were arranged around the

object's middle section. The middle section was solid, appeared metallic, and was "silvery."

The object moved slowly up and down in an undulating motion, traveling from the witness's left (SSE), to his right (NNW). As the object traveled across his field of vision, he describes it as making a gentle left bank turn and then traveling due west and away from himself (his window faces west). The closest the object came to him, he estimates, was about one hundred feet. When the object turned left it seemed to "tilt and turn" with the same undulating up-and-down motion, but it did not change elevation. The entire sighting lasted between 90 and 120 seconds, and about three minutes from the time the sound was first heard.

While the witness watched the object, he experienced unusual mental and physical effects. He was very frightened, he states, of the object, but he also had a feeling of being "charmed or hypnotized" by it. Also, he felt an actual "tingling" of his nerves "or something to that effect" while he watched. These effects, it turns out, although strange, are not unusual in reports of low-level sightings of UFOs.

As soon as he lost sight of the object, he turned to his wife and again asked her if she heard the noise. She said yes and asked "What was it?" "A UFO," he replied. Although it was growing fainter, both of them reported they could still hear the noise in the background, even though the object was lost from view. The witness felt compelled to obtain other verification of the incident "just to be sure . . . because I was wondering if this whole situation was a dream or a nightmare." On the telephone he dialed the operator in nearby Smithfield. He quickly described to her what had happened and asked her if she could hear the noise over the phone. The operator said that she "could hear it." Encour-

aged, he asked her: "You can! Are you sure?" And she replied, "Yes, I can hear it." As the noise faded, he decided then to report this through official channels and had the operator connect him with Langley Field. An operator at Langley connected him with the base UFO Project Blue Book officer who took the description of the sighting and then instructed him in the proper procedure in filing a report.

The witness returned to bed; this was at 3:30 A.M., but he recalls he was too excited to sleep and he remained awake until 6:00. On the way to work, he related his experience to members of his carpool as they headed for NASA, but the carpool members "gave no reply." On arrival at work, he told his colleagues about the unusual events of that early morning, and they responded with interest. One fellow NASA employee then contacted a local newspaper, and a reporter interviewed the witness about his experience.

Later that day he tried to locate the same operator that he had talked with that morning, but he was unsuccessful. He tried each successive day until January 22, when he finally reached the chief operator, who told him that she had had a "talk at length" with the operator, and "The only thing she could have possibly heard during the course of the night was the normal sound of an aircraft going over." Puzzled by this treatment, he explained to the chief operator that the girl had told him differently during the incident, and that he would like to talk to her personally. For a reason yet to be explained, the chief operator would not give out her name and kept repeating the statement. "The only thing she could have possibly heard was the normal sound of an aircraft going over." It was "just as if a briefing had gone on and . . . she had rehearsed her statement over and over."

On the day of the sighting, the witness continued to wonder if anyone in the area other than himself had heard

the sound or witnessed the object. He spent considerable time inquiring—including asking his nearest neighbors in Eclipse, Virginia, a few miles away. The wife said no, but she thought perhaps her mother might have heard it. As it turned out, the woman's mother and her three-year-old granddaughter had both actually heard the sound, which awoke them and frightened them. The woman did not, unfortunately, go to the window to look out. She stated, however, that the sound was so low above their house that it seemed "as if it were coming through the roof." To her, the noise made a varying sound until it seemed as if it were directly above the house. Then it made a loud explosion and she couldn't hear it anymore. The witness did not hear the explosion. (This explosion, from other descriptions of UFO sightings, seems to often accompany the disappearance of the object, almost as if the atoms pop with the dematerialization of the craft.)

He was again unable to sleep the following night. He arose early and started his own investigation, calling on other neighbors in Eclipse to find if anyone else had heard the noise. He was successful in uncovering another resident who stated that she had also heard the noise. The sound as she describes it was loud and varying and "it was coming from almost right on the roof top." It frightened her four-year-old-daughter. She also did not look out the window.

A few days later, the witness learned that a couple in Carrollton, Virginia, had heard the same type of noise. He interviewed them personally, and they all were convinced that each party had heard the same electronic, humming sound. In his last attempt to find other witnesses, he was able to find one more person who heard the noise, a boy in Eclipse. The witness filed a separate report with the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena

and stated at the end that he hoped his government would discover a satisfactory answer to his puzzling sighting.

Inexplicably, Project Blue Book did not begin to investigate this sighting until nearly two months later, although the witness had immediately filed his report. When Blue Book did begin to investigate the sighting, its efforts were necessarily limited.

The man is a reputable and responsible NASA employee and not prone to fantasies, hallucinations, or delusions. Others corroborated what he had heard, including the precise description and the time. His report was detailed and as complete as possible with drawings, charts, and diagrams.

The first objective of Project Blue Book was to discover if there were any helicopters in the area, since the sound could be construed as close to that of a helicopter. A check with Langley Field, and the Army's Transportation Center at Fort Eustis, Virginia, showed no helicopter activity over the area in question. The Air Traffic Control Tower at the Norfolk Regional Airport said that they do not keep records after fifteen days and therefore they could not tell whether any helicopters were in the area. Earlier, an Air Force officer from Langley tried to persuade the witness that he had indeed seen a helicopter, but as the officer put it, he "was not receptive to this line of reasoning." Later Blue Book officers felt that perhaps the witness had seen the Goodyear blimp, or perhaps an aircraft engaged in infra-red photography. Ultimately, Blue Book was forced to list the sighting as "unidentified" because it could not definitely establish that any other aircraft were in the area.

* * *

Besides the obvious features of the sound, configuration, and maneuvers of the object, this sighting has many typical features which place it within the mainstream of common UFO reports. Fear is probably the most common sensation felt by witnesses of low-level objects, and he was definitely frightened—as were the other people who only heard the object. And his "tingling" sensation and his feeling of being "charmed" or "hypnotized" are also typical, although less frequent, features of a sighting of this type. He possibly feared ridicule in regard to this aspect, because although he mentioned it on the Air Force's official UFO report form, he did not disclose it to the press.

According to Dr. David M. Jacobs, UFO historian, "The witness's attempt to verify the sound by calling the operator indicates perhaps a fear of ridicule, if he and his wife alone claimed to hear the sound. It also shows that he was immediately aware of the unusuality of the experience, and he actively sought external verification because of this 'fantastic' aspect. His search for other witnesses, his excitement, and his lack of sleep reinforce this point. At no time was he in doubt about what he had seen, and he adamantly refused to go along with the helicopter explanation put forward to him. These actions are also typical of witnesses to low-level UFOs—the search for believability in an unbelievable situation."

At no time did the witness put forth an opinion on the object's origin. He did not immediately claim to have seen a flying saucer from outer space. In fact, he repeatedly expressed the desire for the government to find an adequate solution to it. Finally, after filing reports with the proper agencies, he did not seek publicity or capital gain from the sighting. His newspaper interview was directly the result of a friend at work notifying the reporter.

What all this means is that a credible, reliable, and competent observer witnessed an incredible and fantastic phenomenon. Supporting testimony backed him up in his claims. According to Dr. Jacobs: "The sighting is a fairly typical sighting, roughly similar to thousands of others made by credible, reliable people around the world. It is simply another sighting in the low-level category—routine."

14. CLOSING THE BLUE BOOK—1969

After twenty-two years of agonizing over the UFO phenomenon, and all the problems it created for the Air Force, on December 16, 1969, the Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Air Force put into effect a top-level decision to disassociate the Air Force from UFO investigations.

The decision to discontinue UFO investigations was based on an evaluation of a report proposed by the University of Colorado, the "Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects," and a review of the study by the National Academy of Sciences, past UFO studies, and the Air Force's experience investigating UFO reports over twenty years.

The conclusions of Project Blue Book were: (1) No UFO reported, investigated, and evaluated by the Air Force has ever given any indication of threat to our national security; (2) There is no evidence submitted that sightings categorized as "unidentified" represent technological developments or principles beyond the range of present-day scientific knowledge; and (3) There is no evidence indicating that these unidentified objects are extraterrestrial.

Closing the Blue Book—1969

On December 17, 1969, the announcement was made public that the Air Force Blue Book Project was officially closed. The files of over twelve thousand cases were placed in storage.

But the ubiquitous UFO wasn't to be influenced by this recent government position.

15. NASA

Even Nasa has UFO sightings.

During space flights launched by NASA, many UFOs have been seen and reported by crew members. NASA takes no official position on UFOs and their probable explanation, nevertheless, there remain on the records reports of several unidentified objects sighted by Gemini, Apollo, and Sky Lab astronauts.

The first sighting occurred during Gemini IV, in June of 1965. Astronaut Jim McDivitt suddenly spotted a cylindrical object with "arms" and "antenna," and when seen against the day sky, it appeared white or silvery. The object then appeared to be moving toward the craft on a collision course. Just before preparing to take action, suddenly sight of it was lost. During the sighting, the astronauts were able to take a photograph and a movie film of the UFO.

The following documentation is taken from the actual Gemini IV air-to-ground transcriptions:

HAWAII

29 40 45	C	. . . Hawaii . . .
29 52 09	CC	Gemini 4, Guaymas CAP COM.
29 52 12	C	Go ahead, Guaymas. Gemini 4.
29 52 14	CC	Roger. We've got you green, how are you doing up there?

29 52 17	C	Fine. I just saw something else up here with me, but just as I was getting close enough to it to take a good picture, the sun got in the way and I lost it.
29 52 26	CC	Roger. We got some flight plan changes for you. Want to stand by to copy?
29 52 29	C	Yes. Stand by and let me see if I can find this thing again.
29 52 45	C	. . . and there are a great number of thunderstorms around at the present time. Lightning is actually lighting up the interior of the spacecraft. . . . activity . . . thunderstorms . . .
29 53 35	C	Okay. Go ahead. It doesn't look like I'm going to see him again.
29 57 09	CC	That's affirm—you still looking at that thing up there?
29 57 12	C	No, I've lost it. It had big arms sticking out of it, it looked like. I only had it for just a minute. I got a couple of pictures with a movie camera and one with the Hasselblads; but I was in free drift, and before I could get the control back I drifted and lost it.
29 57 29	CC	Good show.

The next flight was Gemini V. This was the eight-day mission of LeRoy Gordon Cooper and Charles Conrad. On the third day of their mission, August 24, 1965, as they were passing over Cape Kennedy, Dr. Christopher Kraft, the Gemini Flight Director, came up on the air-to-ground voice network and said, "Hey, do you guys have anything flying alongside of you?"

They replied, "Wait one." In less than ten seconds their

report came crackling over the airwaves, "Negative. Why did you ask?"

Kraft said, "We have a radar image of a space object going right along with you from two thousand to ten thousand yards away. Their radar return is approximately the same magnitude as Gemini V."

The crew in Gemini V then reconfirmed that they couldn't see anything pacing along with them.

The next statement in the log is: "A tumbling radar signature was observed. This info is to be withheld pending further investigation." And that is the last that the public knows about what was sighted during the Gemini V flight. The Cape continued to track this UFO alongside the spacecraft until they both went beyond the curvature of the earth past Ascension Island, the last tracking station in the Atlantic. At the next station in Carnarvon, Australia, the UFO was gone—just the same pattern as had existed with the first Gemini flight almost a year and a half earlier.

Here is an extract of the conversation between ground and air that day:

03 04 57 21	CC	Gemini-5, Gemini-5, this is Houston. Over.
03 04 57 26	C	. . . Houston, Gemini-5.
03 04 57 29	CC	Roger, Gemini-5, this is Houston. Be advised that we tracked another object with you on your pass across the States. Range was 2 to 10,000 yards from the spacecraft. You might look around and see if you can see anything. Unfortunately, I can't tell you which direction to look.
03 04 57 53	C	What time is this?
03 04 57 57	CC	Did you say what size or what time?

03 04 58 00	C	Time.
03 04 58 02	CC	Well, it seems to be going right along with you. So we're tracking it right with you.
03 04 58 13	C	Roger.
03 04 58 21	CC	We're going to lose you here shortly but if you see anything, why don't you let us know at the next station?
03 04 58 27	C	Okay.
03 04 58 31	CC	The radar return was approximately the same as yours as far as magnitude.
03 04 58 38	C	Roger.

Gemini VII mission, with astronauts Borman and Lovell, was in space when Borman describes a "bogey at ten o'clock high." Houston, at first, thought it was the booster from the rocket itself—but the astronauts had the booster in sight at the same time as the UFO. They watched the object at 2 o'clock as it slowly tumbled. No other explanation for the subject seemed to be conclusive. It remains "unknown."

Gemini X crew, Collins and Young, picked up five objects traveling together in orbit—no positive identification has, to date, been made.

Perhaps the most spectacular of all the sightings took place aboard Apollo XI on its way to the moon for the first moon landing. The ship was one day out when the crew spotted an unusual object between their ship and the moon. At first, the crew thought it was the Saturn IV booster rocket and called Houston for confirmation. Houston informed them the booster in question was some six thousand miles away. Looking through binoculars, it appeared to be an "L" shape—"like an open suitcase," as Neil Armstrong de-

scribed it. They were impressed by the object's size and nearness to their craft. The crew looked again, this time through a sextant. With the instrument just off focus, the object appeared a different shape: now it looked either cylindrical or, according to Armstrong, like "two hollow cylinders." As it tumbled, when it came around on end, "you could look right down into its guts." When they refocused the sextant, the object took on the open-book shape again. Collins summarized this incident: "It was really weird." The object remains an unknown.

Here is a section of the transcript from their technical debriefing that refers to the object:

Aldrin: The first unusual thing that we saw I guess was one day out or something pretty close to the moon. It had a sizable dimension to it, so we put the monocular on it.

Collins: How'd we see this thing? Did we just look out the window and there it was?

Aldrin: Yes, and we weren't sure but what it might be the S-IVB. We called the ground and were told the S-IVB was 6,000 miles away. We had a problem with the high gain about this time, didn't we?

Collins: There was something. We felt a bump or maybe I just imagined it.

Armstrong: He was wondering whether the MESA had come off.

Collins: I don't guess we felt anything.

Aldrin: Of course, we were seeing all sorts of little objects going by at the various dumps and then we happened to see this one brighter object going by. We couldn't think of anything else it could be other than the S-IVB. We looked at it through the monocular and it seemed to have a bit of an L shape to it.

Armstrong: Like an open suitcase.

ALDRIN: We were in PTC at the time so each of us had a chance to take a look at this and it certainly seemed to be within our vicinity and of a very sizable dimension.

ARMSTRONG: We should say it was right at the limit of the resolution of the eye. It was very difficult to tell just what shape it was. And there was no way to tell the size without knowing the range or the range without knowing the size.

ALDRIN: So then I got down in the LEB and started looking for it in the optics. We were grossly misled because with the sextant off focus what we saw appeared to be a cylinder.

ARMSTRONG: Or really two rings.

ALDRIN: Yes.

ARMSTRONG: Two rings. Two connected rings.

COLLINS: No, it looked like a hollow cylinder to me. It didn't look like two connected rings. You could see this thing tumbling and, when it came around end-on, you could look right down in its guts. It was a hollow cylinder. But then you could change the focus on the sextant and it would be replaced by this open-book shape. It was really weird.

ALDRIN: I guess there's not too much more to say about it other than it wasn't a cylinder.

COLLINS: It was during the period when we thought it was a cylinder that we inquired about the S-IVB and we'd almost convinced ourselves that's what it had to be. But we don't have any more conclusions than that really. The fact that we didn't see it much past this one period—we really don't have a conclusion as to what it might have been, how big it was, or how far away it was. It was something that wasn't part of the urine dump, we're pretty sure of that.

The Sky-Lab crew had their share of observing UFOs during Sky Lab II. The crew noticed a large, star-shaped object, brighter than a planet or star. The object was observed slowly rotating. They watched it for about ten minutes. They estimated its distance as from thirty to fifty nautical miles from Sky Lab. It too, remains an unknown despite North American Defense Command's and NASA's attempts to identify it.

16. NEWS CLIPPINGS—1973–74

Despite the lack of official interest after Blue Book was closed, UFO sightings continued, with daily reports of flying objects finding their way into the news media. In the closing months of 1973 and into early 1974, there were over a thousand unrelated and unsolved reports of UFOs from across the United States.

From the *Delaware State News*, Dover, Delaware, October 16, 1973, comes this account:

> Three women on their way to market saw it. Flight controllers at Dover Air Force Base saw it. And an unidentified flying object (UFO) reportedly was picked up by radar at the Dover Air Force Base.
>
> The sighting of the brilliant light, which changed from yellowish-orange to red before it disappeared Sunday night according to those who saw it, is similar to several other recent sightings of UFOs across the nation. After hearing reports of the UFO west of Dover and seeing it themselves, the crew of the Delaware State Police helicopter chased the UFO 14 miles across Kent County.

Another in the *Southern Illinoisan,* Carbondale, Illinois, October 18, 1973:

> . . . "It didn't make any noise," Downs said. It had red and green flashing lights on the front and back.
>
> He said the craft moved eastward toward the Dillinger grain elevators on Rt. 51 north of Carbondale before heading south over Carbondale's downtown area. The craft then turned southwest and moved toward the Carbondale Clinic on Rt. 13 west, where it hovered for nearly 20 minutes.
>
> "The whole rear end of the thing seemed to be rotating," he said.

The *State Gazette,* Dyersburg, Tennessee, October 3, 1973:

> Otis West of Newbern, commander of the Dyer County Civil Air Patrol, said in an interview yesterday that he had chased some of the UFOs sighted in the Bruceville area Tuesday night at approximately 10 o'clock.
>
> West said that he and Doug Viar of WTRO radio station flew to Bruceville to view the object which had three lights, one red, one green, and one white flashing light. As described by West, the UFOs in Bruceville were "landing out there in this field. They would come up from behind the trees and they would look like an orange ball. When they got up you could see the strobe flashing. They are spasmatic. They'll move real fast straight up and then they'll stop and they'll go left or right."

From the *Journal,* Tupelo, Mississippi, October 3, 1973:

Officials of the Mississippi Highway Patrol in New Albany confirmed reports late Tuesday of UFO sightings in the Ashland-Holly Springs area at approximately 9:30 P.M.

In the St. Joseph *Gazette*, St. Joseph, Missouri, October 9, 1973:

"It was about 10:45, Friday, September 21. It had looked like it might rain earlier in the evening so I stepped to the front window to check the sky.

"Approaching at about tree-top level and on a line between the Ackley house and garage on the north was an object of brilliant red and blue light. It passed over the garage and house and then settled toward the lawn, hovering about six feet from the street line about garage-roof high. I heard no sound. For about six minutes it hovered there. I was too petrified to move.

"For a minute or two it was perfectly still. Then very slowly it started to rotate and a sort of ribbed shield came in sight, extending about 10 inches from the side of the circular object up and slanting inward toward the translucent dome."

State Times, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, October 19, 1973:

Reports of UFO sightings in this area continued today—this time from Watson and Zachary.

R. E. Clark said that he saw an object that emitted swirling vapor trails in much the same manner as a jet, only circular in shape. "The vapor would swirl up in a circle, straighten out and then go up in a circle again," he said, adding that the sightings occurred at

6:30 A.M. today and were also seen by fellow workers at a Baton Rouge grocery, some 15 miles away.

"I thought I was crazy," Clark said, "but the butchers at the store saw it, too. We can't all be crazy."

In the other report, "angel hair," a long, white, silky substance that occasionally accompanies claims of UFO sightings, has been reported by a Zachary woman who said that two strings, about six feet in length, fell on her seven-year-old son yesterday.

The filmy, string-like substances were like the threads of spiderwebs, sometimes five to six feet in length. They were reported at Shreveport, at Springhill, and 60 miles away at Ruston, as well as Zachary.

Times Dispatch, Richmond, Virginia, October 19, 1973:

It was "hovering and we parked there (on U.S. route 15) about two hours and watched it." The light was triangular and had an orange glow, she said. They saw no metal or inner movement. Mrs. Hensley said a pulsating, vibrating sound emitted from the object and that it made a swishing sound when it disappeared. At times, she said, she saw "lights that seemed to be coming and going." Sometimes it was a bluish-silver light and sometimes they saw touches of red.

The *Record,* Hackensack, New Jersey, October 10, 1973:

At least a dozen residents, including a police officer, swear they saw an unidentified flying object (UFO) hovering over the area for a half hour between 8:30 and 9 P.M. Friday. "There was a reddish beam of

light coming down. There were three lights, red, green, and white, and when I looked through the binoculars it was spinning."

Oklahoma City *Times*, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, February 18, 1974:

Clay Knight, who has a dairy farm near Bowlen Springs, said the unidentified flying object appeared to be taking off from his pasture when he first spotted it about 4:30 A.M., officials said.

"I never saw a man that was so anxious to prove what he said he had seen. It was absolutely fascinating how bad he wanted me to know that he wasn't telling a wild story that wasn't true," said sheriff's deputy, Joe Davenport, who investigated the incident. "I don't have any reason not to believe him," he said. "He's a college graduate and obviously a man of high intelligence."

Davenport said Knight described the mysterious object as having flashing red and orange lights and being as big as a bedroom. "He said it was making a high pitched noise, real shrill," the deputy said. "His herd dog got so scared from the flashing lights and noise that he took off to the house or garage or somewhere and he never could get him to come out again." Davenport said Knight described the object as being silver colored and shiny.

Union Bulletin, Walla Walla, Washington, January 30, 1974:

Guards at the Washington State Penitentiary have spotted what appears to be the same UFO two

mornings in a row from their tower positions at the prison.

"It was very weird, really," said Correctional Officer William Hill. "I was trying to think of a hundred things I wish it could have been." Hill said the Unidentified (apparently) Flying Object has made three appearances, two Monday and one yesterday, all between 3 and 4 A.M.

Seven officers, using binoculars, have been able to see the object in the sky, southwest of the prison.

He said the UFO was round with a bluish-green light on each side of the sphere, which appeared to be revolving clockwise. The UFO also gave off some type of emission from underneath the object, he said.

Tribune, Mobridge, South Dakota, January 10, 1974:

The Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO) are back. . . . One was sighted by six or seven people in the area north of Glenham when it followed a car one night last week. The usual happened, it affected the car's motor, speeded up when the car did. They turned around and so did the object overhead. Hours after reaching home and being inside, they went outside and found the object was still hovering high over the house. With the aid of binoculars it appeared to have a row of many small windows around it. The people involved declined to be named.

World, Tulsa, Oklahoma, October 19, 1973:

Its size, they say, would dwarf a 747 jetliner. It was larger than any flying object they have ever seen. "You feel that they can make the shape of it appear to

be one way one time and another way a split second later," she said. "The lighting system was intricate."

When the blindingly bright white light finally dimmed, the couple saw what they said appeared to be a saucer form straight out of the wildest of the Buck Rogers comic strips. The object was within 250 feet of the pickup truck at one point. Hatchett saw four red-lighted prongs from the tail end and a white one in the center.

Through most of the seven minute experience, the only sound was a consistent, low-level humming coupled with an intermittent, high-pitched humming. The couple experienced an "all-around-you" feeling from the graceful-moving object. Both said they felt powerless before it. In Mannford, both began relating the experience to patrolman J. D. Pawless, who said an unidentified truck driver later reported he had seen a similar object at about the same time and place.

Yazoo City *Herald,* Yazoo City, Mississippi, October 18, 1973:

As I looked through the binoculars, the object moved to a nearly overhead position. Its shape was clearly distinguishable to me as similar to a slightly elongated spinning top. There appeared to be a center band of a solid blue-white pulsating strobe light similar to that used on landing fields. The upper and lower portions of the object glowed red.

Lima *News,* Lima, Ohio, October 17, 1973:

Add the name of Gov. John J. Gilligan to the list of persons on record as saying they have seen an

unidentified flying object. Gilligan told Statehouse newsmen today that he and his wife, Katie, watched a "vertical shaped, amber colored" object for a period of 30 to 35 minutes Monday night while driving toward Ohio near Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Athens *Messenger,* Athens, Ohio, October 18, 1973:

And according to three Athens city police officers who spent better than an hour "sky-watching," two unidentified flying objects happened to be hovering over Athens early this morning.

Although the officers declined to be named, they all claimed sobriety, and described the objects as having the shape of an "ice cream cone," which hovered in both vertical and horizontal positions. They spotted the first UFO at 12:55 A.M. and watched it for approximately 45 minutes until it drifted in a southerly course and out of sight.

People's Defender, West Union, Ohio, October 18, 1973:

Adams county Deputies Jerry Blanton and Tony Crawford were on a routine patrol. The time was 1:14 A.M. and according to Jerry Blanton the object was just hanging about 200 feet above the ground in the vicinity of Chaperal Road. The two law officers watched it for several minutes, spellbound. They had a camera in the car but said they were so dumbfounded they never thought to use it. The brilliance of the pulsating lights, red, green, blue, white, seemed to keep them in a mesmerized state. Its movements, according to the officers, were jerky. It would zig and move in a very tight circle.

West Virginian, Fairmont, West Virginia, October 17, 1973:

FLYING SAUCER OVER FAIRMONT?

Register, Springfield, Illinois, October 17, 1973:

WAVERLY POLICE CHIEF, OTHERS SIGHT UFO

Independent Journal, San Rafael, California, October 17, 1973:

MANY IN MARIN SIGHT EERIE
OBJECT IN THE EVENING SKY

Southern Illinoisan, Carbondale, Illinois, October 1, 1973:

OBJECT REPORTED HOVERING AT ZEIGLER

News-Free Press, Chattanooga, Tennessee, October 18, 1973:

POLICE REPORT TAKEOFF OF UFO,
TRACK IT ACROSS PART OF CITY

Enterprise, Beaumont, Texas, October 19, 1973:

ST. LANDRY POLICE SPOT UFO

St. Joseph *Gazette*, St. Joseph, Missouri, October 12, 1973:

UFO 'SQUADRON' REPORTED

Palo Verde Valley Times, Blythe, California, November 8, 1973:

PATROLMAN SEES UFO

Darlington County Tribune, Hartsville, South Carolina, October 18, 1973:

UFO SIGHTED IN HARTSVILLE

Culpeper *Star Exponent,* Culpeper, Virginia, December 29, 1973:

AREA POLICEMEN SIGHT 3 UFOS

Pioneer, Madres, Oregon, January 10, 1974:

UFO SIGHTED BY OFFICIALS

Bulletin, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 5, 1973:

POLICEMEN SEE HOVERING UFO NEAR MEDIA

Palmyra *Spectator,* Palmyra, Missouri, October 10, 1973:

UFOS SEEN OVER PALMYRA

Goldsboro, North Carolina, April 5, 1974:

MT. OLIVE NEWSMAN DESCRIBES UFO

Bremerton, Washington, May 24, 1974

RESIDENT TELLS OF SEEING UFOS

Chicago, Illinois, *Tribune,* May 28, 1974

UFOS SEEN OVER LAKE SUNDAY

Macon, Missouri, *Chronicle-Herald*

UFO PUZZLES BEVIER MAN

Reading, Pennsylvania, Reading *Times*

UP IN THE SKY—A BLINKING UFO!

And the list of sightings goes on. Within a six month period, four books, two feet by three feet and almost two inches thick, were filled with these clippings from the United States alone, and we know hundreds of sightings are continuing to be reported from around the world as this book goes into print.

17. THE COYNE CASE—1973

Among the many reports of UFOs in late 1973, one incident stands out because of the credibility of the four witnesses.

Four military men were involved: Major Larry Coyne, Army helicopter pilot; his co-pilot, Lt. Arrigo Jezzi; an air medic, Sgt. John Healy; and crew chief Sgt. Robert Yanaseck.

These men had just finished their annual flight physical early that day, and were found fit and sound of mind.

They took off by helicopter from Port Columbus Airport about 10:30 P.M. The incident happened about 11 P.M., halfway between Columbus and Cleveland.

Bob Yanaseck was the first one to notice the object—a small red light on the horizon. Thirty or forty seconds later, Major Coyne watched the light closing in on his craft. A radio confirmation of aircraft in the vicinity flying in excess of 600 knots was made with negative results. The unknown object continued on a collision course with the helicopter, and the crew prepared for what they thought would be a midair impact.

But what was about to follow and the subsequent report they filed would put to the test the reputations and credibility of these men.

The FAA spokesman, Mr. Paul Vollmer, who talked with

Major Coyne after the incident, describes his personal feelings after his conversation with Coyne: "Well, first, I want to say I'll never in all my life forget that man coming in. I have known Major Coyne for some time and I personally have an extremely high regard for his integrity and his capabilities. Even in a case like this, I don't know anybody that I would believe any more. I trust him without a question of doubt. In fact, I just can't imagine any of the four men—grown, reliable, trustworthy, honest people—making this up. I don't know what happened, but I do know that I could tell from the tremor of his voice . . . he was shook."

To get the full impact of this experience, we will now climb into that Army helicopter and take you up to twenty-five hundred feet—to the exact area where it happened. Major Coyne is seated in the front right bucket seat. To the left is Lt. Jezzi. Behind you in two auxiliary jump seats are Yanaseck and Healy. The sound of the rotary blades and the vibration drone on as everyone sits silent, heading for the area.

It's a clear evening, and as you gaze out the right side of the helicopter and look downward, you can see scattered lights below. Then, Coyne breaks in over the roar of the copter and, raising his voice, says, "The light," and points off ahead of the copter. "We first saw this light—off there," he nods back over his shoulder. "Check it out," he recounts, "Then I see it—it was closing in on us." A moment passes. "I grabbed the controls from Jezzi." Coyne's hands give the controls a firm, quick shake and you can feel the craft respond. "Because it was going to hit us." Coyne then makes a convulsive move, by ducking his head and raising an arm in front of his face. He leans over toward

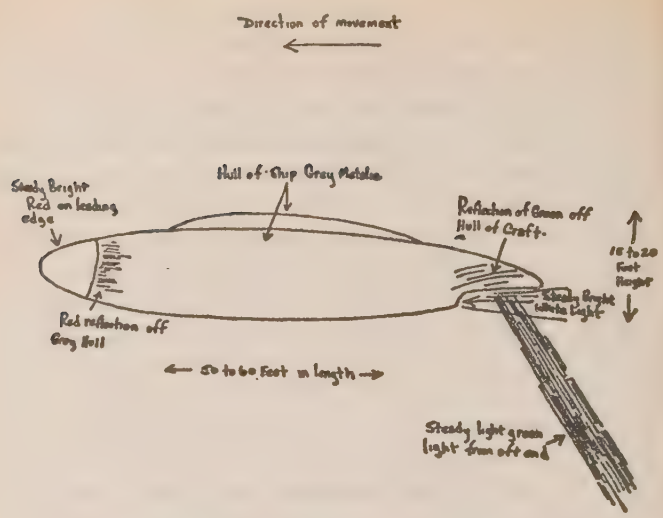
you. "I braced for impact and pushed the stick down." The whole copter begins to descend and you feel yourself falling. "We started to descend." Healy leans foward, next to your ear, and raises his voice above the buffeting blade sound. "The only thing I felt was when the controls changed hands (just like now), and then we went cycling down. When the skipper bent over for impact, like that—well, I'd never been involved, even in a close one, so I sat like a spectator. I didn't know what was going to happen." Healy, finishing his comment, leans back in his seat.

Coyne gestures up to the roof with an open hand. "Then at this point, I saw it. The front edge was—oh, about here. It was a bright red light. I looked at my altimeter." His finger taps the instrument. "It was seventeen hundred feet. Then it moved slowly over us. Slowly it started to move. Now from a high speed it stopped, and it slowly moved"—he gestured again—"over this way. And Healy saw it, and Jezzi and Yanaseck picked it up. And a red light, a green light, and a white light on it. I looked at my altimeter. I looked. I said, my God. It was three thousand five hundred feet climbing at a thousand feet a minute." He checks the position of the stick. "And I've got the stick in the down position." Coyne looks over with an expression that emphasizes his disbelief.

"Did anyone else see the altimeter at this time?"

Coyne, with both hands back on the stick, responded: "No, we were all kind of confused, we didn't know what was happening. And I said, okay, and I say we were climbing"—his head nodding toward the controls—"and this is down, so I pulled it up." The copter lifts abruptly. You grab your seat to hold on. "And we started settling."

"You mean, you had the helicopter in a controlled autorotative descent, and when the object was over you—it was as if you were pulled up towards the object?"


Direction of movement
Steady Bright Red on leading edge
Hull of Ship Gray Metalic
Reflection of Green off Hull of Craft.
15 to 20 feet Height
Steady Bright White Light
Red reflection off Gray Hull
40 to 60 Feet in Length
Steady light green light from aft end

"Yes—according to the altimeter. I looked up at the object—then I saw it—clearly!" With a slow sweep of his hand, he describes it: "You could delineate where the red light stopped and a gray metallic structure began. You could also see a red reflection off the gray metallic structure. Because if you look further aft in the center of the structure, you can see the gray."

Healy, leaning forward again, raises his voice: "It had a steady red light on its nose. It was cigar-shaped and had this green light shining down out of the dome. No noise, nor were there any turbulences—air turbulences." Yanaseck adds: "We contacted the Mansfield Airport and told them that we were almost in an air collision with an aircraft operating at about three thousand feet operating at six hundred knots. And Mansfield just never acknowledged our broadcast after that."

"What about this green light, then—you said it was beaming down this way?" you ask.

Coyne extends his hand up toward the top of the windshield. "It came down on a forty-five—through the top, here. And this light, this was the one that swung"—his open hand pivots around—"from a hundred and eighty degrees to ninety degrees to our position. It lighted up the whole cockpit—all the dials and everything were bathed in bright green light."

Healy pulls himself forward again to make a point: "Almost like to see what we were—what we were." The conversation hangs on his remark, each man silently confirming Healy's feeling.

Coyne, as if to change the subject, goes on: "The light had a kind of pyramid shape to it—you could see the light rays."

You ask Coyne about the outlines of the thing—was it fuzzy or quite sharp?

Coyne turns full face toward you: "Distinct! 'Cause you had stars behind you. It was dark. You could see the ground and with the stars out you can actually see the outline."

"How about windows on the ship—were there any? Did you see anything?"

Healy, leaning back now, more relaxed, says, "What I was looking at would be the port side of the aircraft, and there were no windows that I could see."

"Since you contacted the Mansfield Airport, was there any radio contact? Had you overheard any radio contact with the airport before you called it?"

Jezzi fields the question. "No, no. The radio was pretty dead."

"Pretty dead?"

Healy jumps in, emphasizing what he says with hand

gestures: "We tried to get hold of Cleveland, though, and when we couldn't get hold of Cleveland, we had to get hold of Akron."

"I was just thinking, when you attempted to contact Mansfield, is it possible that nobody was there to answer?"

Healy, adjusting in his seat, "Oh, no, they answered our call."

"They answered your call?"

Coyne, cocking his head, replies, "Yes."

Healy puts his hands on the back of the seat you're sitting in. "Oh, yes. And we told them where we were and we asked them if they had any high-speed aircraft operating in low altitude. They just never answered our question. They probably figured we were drunk or something. Or figured it was some kind of a joke. But you don't joke around giving your tail numbers or anything like that."

By this time, Coyne has pulled the copter around in a low arc and we're in a smooth flight path back toward the field. Healy absent-mindedly rubs his nose and continues his point: "You can lose your commission with a trick like that. Then our major's got nineteen years of service, and he's got a couple thousand hours of flying time under his belt, so . . ."

Coyne talks over the intercom to the field and sets the details of the landing. He then turns his attention back to us and continues: "Then all of us in the aircraft have been connected with aviation for a minimum of seven years, we know and have been in the aviation field one way or another. We know aircraft from the PT-19s up to the C-5As, so I know an aircraft when I see it at night. Everybody looks at us and they laugh, because I've talked to people, and they say, Ha, ha, ha. We laugh about it too. That's the reason why I thought I would like to go on record with this thing." Coyne concentrates on the landing, and in a moment we

touch down. The power's off, the blades lazily whip themselves down to a slower and slower rotation as we pile out of the copter.

At the present time, the U.S. Army Aviation Safety Board is in the process of investigating this case at Ft. Rucker, Alabama. One witness, a Mr. B—— of Ohio saw the entire incident from the ground at the time. And he isn't laughing either.

What are the possible explanations? Could it have been a meteor, as some have thought? We asked Dr. Hynek, who had investigated the incident. He replied, "Most of all, meteors are not bright green, and the light was coming in from the top, they said. That simply doesn't follow. And the green light shining in, and the bright white light, that doesn't follow. Also meteors don't make forty-five degree turns and it [a meteor] would have lasted only a few seconds."

Could it have been an experimental aircraft? According to all the rules of flight and all the experts, clandestine aircraft wouldn't operate at that speed at that low altitude. There would be too much danger of hitting other aircraft. In fact, it's against FAA regulations to fly above two hundred knots at that altitude. When the incident was over, the men were all still terrified because of the speed of the object. And according to Coyne's description, it came from the horizon very quickly, but when it went over their aircraft its speed was very slow—until it passed by and over the copter, when it picked up speed again. A helicopter has a glass roof over the pilot and co-pilot, so they can see directly up. The men were standing right in the aisle between the pilot and co-pilot looking right through the greenhouse watching this object. It came to a stop right over them, and they could see

it was metallic, and then it started up again. All the men got a good look at it and described it in some detail.

Until the final report is in, the incident will have to join the hundreds of other unexplained cases of UFOs reported daily across America.

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III

FUTURE

At this point, we are asked by the official investigating bodies and scientific panels to simply accept their explanation for what these people saw—that in the majority of the over twelve thousand cases in the Air Force records, this phenomenon is nothing more than misidentifications of stars or some other natural phenomenon, or a result of weather inversions.

But we have an alternative. While our government's official position is to avoid speculation on this subject, we can choose to let our minds explore other possibilities, to use our imagination. For present-day astroscientists agree on one point—the possibility of life elsewhere. Some feel it exists without a doubt.

Let us suppose then, that these objects are real space vehicles, extraterrestrial in origin, and not an illusion of the mind. Perhaps we can begin to accept the variety of reported UFO shapes and configurations by looking at our aviation history. We have, in seventy-one years, devised dozens of aircraft shapes, from propeller driven biplanes to egg-shaped blimps to delta-shaped jets to lunar modules—and it is conceivable that our future technology may lead us to developments similar to those described by witnesses of UFOs.

As to the UFOs behavior: If they are space vehicles, they appear to have movement in advance of our twentieth-century technology. But we must realize, however it stretches our imagination, there will be a twenty-first century and a twenty-second and a twenty-third—where the impossibilities of today may be tomorrow's commonplace.

The world was once believed to be flat, and it took Copernicus and other scientists two hundred years to prove otherwise. Some thought as recently as twenty years ago that the moon was too distant to reach. And there are those who believe the earth is the center of man's universe and that life couldn't exist on other planets. Perhaps not in our lifetime, but in the future the answer will be known.

18. ON BEING CONTACTED

So far we've talked of the past and the present—but what are the possibilities of the future? It seems almost certain that if other beings, more advanced than ourselves, do inhabit other sectors of the universe, there will come that day when contact will be made.

And if that historic event should take place—what would be the circumstances, the immediate reactions? Would the majority of the American public be psychologically prepared? Would they accept it? What steps would the government or the military take?

Let us look at an incident that might happen in the future—or perhaps could have happened already.

The premise is that contact is made by extraterrestrial beings with representatives of the United States Air Force at Holloman AFB in the deserts of New Mexico.

Early morning is breaking over the cool gray New Mexico desert. We are in the operations tower of Holloman Air Force Base at the landing field.

We hear, over an intercom, a voice: "Check list April . . . Charlie four standing by." From within the tower, we

hear a control operator giving some data to a pilot: "Wind, northeasterly—two knots. Temperature sixty-eight degrees, visibility ten miles and clearing." Behind the operator's voice, airmen are making small talk about the lousy coffee.

The day is clear. It's about 5:30 A.M. Traffic is light; one recon plane is on the field ready for takeoff when the tower phone rings and Sergeant Mann is given a report of an approaching unidentified craft.

We shift to the radar hut. On the scope several blips appear as the radar scans the sky. The radarman leans into his phone: "I'll repeat it again—unidentified approaching objects—on coordinate forty-niner—thirty-four degrees southwest following an erratic approach course . . ."

The controller, sipping his coffee, responds: "Probably a stray—civilian maybe? Keep me informed." He turns to his associate. "Check with Edwards." He scoots his chair up next to the radioman's. "Make contact with him, Bill."

The radio operator depresses the talk button and flicks a control switch. "This is Holloman Air Force Base Control Tower. Identify yourself. You are encroaching on military air space—warning—identify yourself—what is your tail number? You are in a restricted military air corridor." There is a pause and the airman turns to the controller: "No response."

The controller searches the airman's face for a reaction. "My god, what the hell do you make of it?" He pushes the intercom, connecting him to the base commander. He passes his binoculars to the airman, saying, "Here, look through my glasses."

Inside the commander's pale green office, a sergeant picks up the phone. "Base commander's office, Sergeant Whitmore speaking. Yes, yes—hold on. Colonel, for you."

The colonel swivels around in his chair and picks up the line: "This is Colonel Horner. Yes . . . yes, an uniden-

tified vehicle. You warned the craft again? It's a what shape? . . . Check Edwards? . . . The civilian patrol? OK, right." The colonel sits for a moment with the phone in his lap, then makes a decision. Pushing a line on the squawk box, he leans forward: "Sound a red alert—unidentified craft approaching." He rises and calls to his aide, "Bill, make a quick check with Wright-Patterson and Intelligence—it may be an experimental craft from nearby. Alert the fire chief and security and safety." Searching for the plausible explanation, he mutters, "Sounds like a damned lunar module experiment."

Two military interceptors are dispatched to escort the unidentified craft out of the area.

By chance, cameramen, a technical sergeant and a staff sergeant, of the base photographic team, are aboard a base helicopter on a routine photographic mission at the time, and they run off several feet of film of three objects in the sky over Holloman. One of the objects breaks away and begins a descent. A second high-speed camera crew, set up to photograph a test launch, turns its camera toward the object and runs off approximately six hundred feet of 16mm color film.

The cameras continued to roll as the extraordinary vehicle comes into view. It hovers, almost silently, about ten feet off the ground for nearly a minute, and yaws like a ship at anchor. Then it sets down on three extension arms.

The commander and two officers, along with two base Air Force scientists, arrive and wait apprehensively. A panel slides open on the side of the craft.

Stepping forward, there are one, then a second, and a third—what appear to be men dressed in tight-fitting jump suits. Perhaps short by our standards, with an odd blue-gray complexion, eyes set far apart. A large, pronounced nose.

They wear headpieces that resemble rows of a rope-like design.

The commander and the two scientists step forward to greet the visitors. Arrangements are made by some inaudible sort of communication and the group quickly retires to an inner office in the King I area. There they are met and guided to the end of Mars Street to the west area building number 930. Left behind stand a stunned group of military personnel. Who the visitors are, where they're from, and what they want is unknown.

19. ON PUBLIC REACTION

Let us assume, for the present, that this event did actually happen, that extraterrestrial visitors did arrive. How would the public, once informed, respond? What chain of problems could it create in our society? How would *you* react, if there was enough documented evidence to support it?

The Holloman scenario and the question of how the public would respond to it was put to five leading American social psychologists. They were asked to draw up a report based on available information and research. Because no such event has ever happened before, each psychologist had to draw on his own sources and experiences, and speculate on the probable result.

The study was carried out under the direction of Dr. Leon Festinger of the School for Social Research, State University of New York. The contributors were Dr. Howard Rachlin, State University of New York; Dr. Elliot Aronson, University of Texas; Dr. Elaine Walster, University of Wisconsin; and one prominent authority from Yale, who wished to remain anonymous. Each contributor covered a different aspect of the problem, although in some cases they overlapped and reinforced each other. Keep in mind that time did not allow this project to be developed into a definitive study of the problem. The reports are given here in abridged form.

1

First, Dr. Aronson of the University of Texas believes that a person's reaction to news of the humanoid from outer space would depend to a very large extent on his prior belief, and his degree of commitment to that belief. "I do not believe that there will be many extreme reactions; people will not panic, they will not become aggressive, they will not leave the cities, they won't absent themselves from their workaday world." He points out that there *have* been examples of panic in such situations, such as the reactions to Orson Welles's radio adaptation of H. G. Wells's *War of the Worlds*. "But the situation is very different in 1974. Basically, it is not a panic situation; there is no clear and present danger." He feels "the news that a humanoid from outer space exists will not be terribly startling to most people, especially in view of the fact that the government apparently has the situation under control and has been interviewing this humanoid for three or four years."

He went on, "A person's reaction to the news will depend on his prior beliefs. Let's look at a scenario in terms of two people. We can multiply these two people by several million and get what I would regard as the typical response of someone a) who is committed to the belief that there is life in outer space, that UFOs were and are a real phenomenon, and b) a person who has pooh-poohed the notion that UFOs are real and whose prior belief was that there is no human-like life in outer space."

Sam and Mildred are husband and wife. During the fifties and sixties, as apparent sightings of UFOs began to attain national prominence, Sam became increasingly convinced that they were a real phenomenon. After all, Sam reasoned, many people in many

walks of life testified to having seen strange objects floating in space. Some of these people were prominent, highly respected people, some were law-enforcement officers, like sheriffs, military officers. Many books have been written claiming that UFOs are a real phenomenon. Photographs were taken that seemed to show strange objects, etc., etc., etc.

Millie, on the other hand, thought that the sighting of UFOs was a bunch of hogwash, that a lot of the so-called space ships were the work of pranksters; she could actually point to a few instances where pranks were uncovered and generalized from these data. Furthermore, many of the other so-called sightings could be explained on the basis of hysteria—a few gullible people were taken in, or they saw sunspots or various cloud formations and this kind of sighting spread by hysterical people to the point where many people were "seeing" things that really didn't exist. For support, she quotes a report from a government-sponsored commission, published in the late sixties, which concluded that there is no evidence to support the notion that UFOs exist. The commission was chaired by Edward Condon, a highly regarded physicist. She is convinced that there is no human-like life on outer planets, and therefore UFOs cannot possibly be a real phenomenon.

Over the years Sam and Millie have argued bitterly about the topic of UFOs and whether or not they exist. Thus when the press conference was held breaking the news of the humanoid's existence, Sam's immediate internal reaction was intense and unmitigated joy. After all, his belief was confirmed. His commitment was exonerated. But after an initial hurrah, his dominant and persistent response was

calm acceptance. He sees no need . . . to stay home from work—he does not do anything differently. He was convinced for years that intelligent human life existed in outer space and it is certainly not surprising to learn that the government now has absolute proof of that existence—proof in the form of this person whom they have been interviewing for the past four years or so. They have been in direct contact with this person for four years and no disaster has struck and, accordingly, it is highly unlikely that any disaster would occur in the foreseeable future.

It should be emphasized that Sam's calm acceptance of the news that human life from another planet does definitely exist is in part Sam's way of demonstrating his confidence in his prior beliefs. That is to say, the calmer he can react in public and the more accepting he is of the event without outward show of intense emotion, the more convincing he will be to himself and to other people. Thus, when Sam arrives at the office and his colleagues ask him if he's heard the news, he simply shrugs and says, "It was simply a matter of time—I knew it would happen sooner or later."

Mildred's reaction, on the other hand, is quite different. When she sees the press conference and views the humanoid she immediately suspects that the government is lying. Because of the fact that she has committed herself to the belief that UFOs are a farce and do not exist and to the belief that there is no intelligent life in outer space, anything that implies that she is wrong must be derogated and disposed of. Thus, Mildred immediately assumes that the government has something to gain by implying or demonstrating that they do indeed have a humanoid from

outer space. ("Perhaps Nixon is trying to divert attention from Watergate or the energy crisis.") Thus, in almost a paranoid manner she convinces herself that it is a sham, that the so-called humanoid is an actor playing an elaborate role, hoodwinking the gullible. If she can succeed in doing this, then she can succeed in maintaining her high self-concept and in not losing the running argument that she's been having with Sam (and others) over the past several years.

Now in order to do this, she has to go to great lengths to convince herself and others that the government has something to gain by doing this and that the government is dishonest and clever. Thus she will recall the Watergate situation, the so-called dirty tricks, what John Mitchell referred to as the White House Horror Stories, as examples of the duplicity and sham, as the lengths to which the people in the government are willing to go in order to promote something that is to their own advantage. Moreover, because her belief has been apparently disconfirmed, she will seek social support for the continuation of that belief. Thus, she will frantically run around to try to convince other people that there is no life in outer space, that the so-called humanoid is fake.

Notice, if you will, the contrast between Sam's behavior and Mildred's behavior. Sam's behavior is calm acceptance. Mildred, on the other hand, is fervently buttonholing and attempting to convince everyone in sight that the humanoid doesn't really exist, but he's a paid actor in makeup, etc. . . . In summary, not only does she construct plausible and elaborate theories of deception and conspiracy to account for this apparent phenomenon, but in addi-

tion, she seeks a good deal of social support for her belief.

The evidence underlying this reasoning, stems largely from the theory of cognitive dissonance (Festinger, 1957). If an event occurs that is consonant with one's beliefs, that is, consistent with beliefs that a person has committed himself to, that person feels pleased, happy, calm, relaxed and is not motivated to do anything except be pleased. On the other hand, if events occur that are dissonant with the person's beliefs and commitments, he strives to reduce that dissonance. One way to reduce the dissonance is to deny the fact that those events have actually occurred, and in order to deny that fact, one has to construct an apparently reasonable explanation for the events that is consistent with the primary belief.

Moreover, since a state of dissonance is an unstable and psychologically uncomfortable situation, one really needs to bolster that explanation for the events and to strengthen one's initial belief, in this case, the belief that there is no life in outer space. The more you can convince other people that you are right—in this case, the more you can convince other people that there is a government plot—the greater will be the reduction of dissonance and the more comfortable you will become.

Evidence for this phenomenon stems from many experiments, most notably in a study by Festinger, Reicken, and Schachter *(When Prophecy Fails)*. In this book, the authors describe a situation in which individuals predicted the end of the world and when the end of the world didn't come, they convinced themselves the reason it didn't come was because of their pious belief and fervent prayers. Prior to the

disconfirming of their belief, they showed no apparent interest in proselytizing people; after the disconfirmation, they made great efforts to proselytize. More generally, there is a host of evidence indicating that when an individual commits himself to a particular action, unless there is good reason for that commitment, he comes to believe in that commitment, even in the face of a good deal of disconfirming evidence. When disconfirming evidence occurs, he tends to distort it so as to make it consonant with his beliefs.

My description of Mildred's actions may be a bit extreme. It is conceivable that many people who committed themselves to the notion that the UFOs were figments of people's imagination would not take as extreme a position as Mildred did. That is, if the evidence of the existence of a humanoid is very powerful, or overwhelming, it would be very difficult for a person to maintain that the government was lying in the face of that much evidence, without exhibiting behavior that was bordering on the psychotic. In this case, the individual might try to reduce dissonance in an alternative manner. Perhaps he could accept that this humanoid *does* exist and still maintain that most of the evidence for UFOs in the past *was* imaginary. This would allow the person to convince himself that he was correct in his initial assessment in spite of the fact that there is life in outer space.

But although it may seem far-fetched, Mildred's behavior is *not* without precedent. In several psychological experiments, it has been shown that people will tend to derogate the source of information that is dissonant with their own beliefs. For example, in an experiment by Aronson, Turner, and Carlsmith, it was shown that wherever the source of information was

derogatable, people who discovered information that ran counter to their own opinions tended to derogate the souce of that information, that is, by convincing themselves that that person was stupid, foolish, etc., etc. People do often change their opinions in the face of disconfirming evidence, but they will not change their opinions very easily if they have firmly committed themselves to that opinion in advance. That is, the evidence shows, if we believe something, but are not firmly committed to that belief, and we hear some evidence to the contrary from an unimpeachable source, we will change our opinions, but if we are deeply committed to that belief, and we encounter evidence that runs counter to our belief from a source that is derogatable, most of us tend to derogate the source of that information rather than give up our commitment to our prior belief (Aronson, Turner, Carlsmith).

2

Dr. Walster, in collaboration with four graduate students at the University of Wisconsin, approached the problem from another standpoint. They directed their attention to the importance, when presenting news of aliens landing, of emphasizing the physical similarities between them and us, playing down the dissimilarities in body parts, coloring, etc.

Within the report there was the point made about the gift of knowledge and information that might be offered to us by the aliens and how we might respond:

Most Americans have learned that one rarely gets "something for nothing." They know that when they

accept benefits, which they cannot repay in kind, they may be obligated to repay their benefactor in unspecified ways for an unspecified time. Democritus (in the Fourth Century B.C.) said, "Accept favors in the foreknowledge that you will have to give a greater return for them." Americans are usually unwilling to extend such unlimited blanket credit.

Or . . . Americans may have more specific fears. They may worry that their benefactor will demand excessive gratitude or constant acknowledgment of his social and moral superiority. Homans (1961) observed that "Anyone who accepts from another service he cannot repay in kind incurs inferiority as a cost of receiving the service. The esteem he gives the other he forgoes himself" (p. 320).

Thus, social psychologists have found that individuals most appreciate gifts when they can give something in return.

The Air Force, then, should be careful to stress that although the alien humanoids will surely give us the things *we* want—universal peace, a cure for cancer, or solar energy—Americans also possess things the aliens want—jazz, achievement motivation . . . and Colonel Sanders Chicken.

Finally, Americans should be reassured that Earth-Alien relationships are ultimately at *their* discretion. Regardless of how reassuring the interviewer is, aliens are still potentially frightening. (For example, if the aliens can provide enormous benefits, they may be more powerful than we are. What if they turn on us tomorrow?)

Thus, Americans should be made to feel that it is their hand which guides the Fail-Safe button. . . . The fact that the aliens possess these weaknesses

should be revealed to the public. It will reassure them that if worst comes to worst, the aliens—so recently brought into their lives and who seem to promise so much—can be taken *out* of their lives.

3

The third and most comprehensive report was from a highly regarded psychologist in the field of social behavior. For reasons of his own, his name will remain confidential. His analysis was peppered with enough levity to make it not only informative but enjoyable.

He begins with the statement that available theory and research can be quite useful, but in a very limited way. He then dubs the Holloman Air Force Base incident as the "Humanoid-Organisms-Allegedly-Extraterrestrial—HOAEX, for short." This he feels would be the reaction of the many eminent scientists, statesmen, journalists, and educators that were not asked to be present to witness the incident. The doctor states:

> The initial skepticism, and outright disbelief publicly expressed by many eminent scientific authorities as well as by other prestigious leaders of the national community who were not insiders will have a marked effect on the reactions of the U.S. public. They will call attention to the improbabilities of the TV press conference scenario such as:
> —How likely is it that creatures from another world with the capability of sending emissaries here would do so without radio contact first?
> —How likely is it that the creatures could survive in the earth's atmosphere—or are they in a sealed

environment that they brought along with many years' supply of the gases they need, etc.?

—Would the representatives of a vastly superior civilization allow themselves to be kept at an Air Force base for three years?

The announcement will also get a very bad press from leading scientists and politicians in the Soviet Union and in other countries where the U.S. government, and especially the U.S. military establishment, is not trusted. Some of them will point out that the U.S. would not be wasting its time on presenting the HOAEX on TV unless they were up to no good. For example, they may speculate that the U.S. Air Force is planning to use a new destructive weapon against the S.U. and claim to the world, on the basis of its HOAEX show, that it was done by remote control

In the absence of any clear-cut demonstration that would be utterly convincing to the majority of scientists outside the little circle of the AFB, the authenticity of HOAEX will continue to influence the public's views and actions, even if supposedly convincing evidence is continuously being presented on later TV shows and in documentary movies by the AF and its scientists (and by other scientists invited to join the prestigious university lab to which the HOAEX visitors have been transferred to counteract charges of an AF plot). Many of the scientists who initially attacked the credibility of the original TV show will have publicly committed themselves. And public commitment is a great source of resistence to persuasive communications that might otherwise change a person's mind: it leads the person to reduce dissonance or conflict by bolstering his original position with new arguments. (Such studies have been

made by: Deutsch, Krauss and Rosenau, 1962; Festinger, 1964; Gerard, Blevans, and Malcolm, 1964; Janis and Mann, 1968; Kiesler, 1968; McGuire, 1968.) So the public will continue to be treated to a wide variety of impressive negativistic comments during the months following the upcoming TV show, which will make for considerable ambiguity.

Most people, when asked for an opinion on what they think the public reaction would be to aliens from a distant planet landing, seem to feel it would result in panic. Addressing himself to the possibility of panic, he gave this response:

> . . . studies of public reactions to war, disasters, epidemics, and other such frightening events indicate that mass panic rarely occurs except under certain very unusual circumstances (Baker and Chapman, 1962; Barton, 1969; Berkun et al., 1962; Fritz and Marks, 1954; Janis, 1951 and 1971; Kelley et al., 1965; Wolfenstein, 1957). The main type of situation in which mass panic is likely to occur is one in which people are suddenly made aware of clear and present danger that is rapidly encroaching and they also perceive that the escape routes will soon be closed so that within a few minutes they will be *trapped* (e.g., a conflagration inside a crowded theater). These are essentially the same circumstances that create acute traumatic neurosis, giving rise to spells of uncontrollable anxiety and memory loss and other cognitive impairments that persist for days or weeks. (Grinker and Spiegel, 1945; Janis, 1951; Kardiner and Spiegel, 1947; Tyhurst, 1957.) Panic does not invariably occur even when these extreme conditions are present.

Subsidiary factors also play a role. Under conditions of potential entrapment, ambiguities about how extensive and horrible the danger might be will heighten fear and contribute to panic. (But it should be noted that panic is *not* a likely response to verbal warnings that are ambiguous with regard to authenticity or that create uncertainty as to whether there might be severe, mild, or no danger at all in the offing. The disaster literature cited above indicates that ambiguous warning messages are likely to be discounted and ignored by all except a small percentage of people, mainly hyperanxious neurotic persons.)

According to studies of war and disaster, three other factors also contribute to the probability that a person will display a panic reaction under conditions of potential entrapment: (1) lack of opportunity for engaging in vigorous protective action; (2) loss of contact with members of the family or with other primary groups; (3) lack of reassuring communication from esteemed persons.

Another stereotype about public reactions to exotic threats that is promoted by some sensationalistic journalists is that many people are likely to wander about senselessly, like zombies. It is true that stunned, dazed, and psychotic-like withdrawal are sometimes observed in large-scale disasters, but usually it is among people who have been severely victimized—e.g., who have been injured or who have seen members of their family killed.

None of the primary or contributory factors that make for panic or traumatic neurotic reactions, or stunned psychotic-like behavior, are likely to be present as a result of the upcoming TV press conference, with its emphasis on friendliness and

cooperation with the HOAEX. Even if the message were suddenly to change the next day, with the HOAEX, presented as malign, threatening creatures who have massive death-ray weapons that can wipe out entire cities, the mere warning message itself is unlikely to evoke panic, since there is no clear and present danger.

But what about Orson Welles's radio broadcast of the "Invasion from Mars"—didn't that cause a mass panic? True, the word "panic" has been used to describe the public's reactions. But a careful reading of Cantril's (1940) study of that so-called panic reveals that a small number of people in New Jersey went so far as to get into their cars to evacuate (some after carefully filling the car with essential provisions) in response to an official radio announcement to evacuate by the Governor of New Jersey. For most people, the "panic" consisted only of telephoning friends and relatives to tell them about the bad news they just heard. The main cause of the excitement was the realistic newscasts about gas spreading in New Jersey and the Governor's evacuation warning heard by people who tuned in after the program started and missed the initial announcement that it was a fictional presentation.

Panic and distraught wild behavior are certainly in everyone's repertoire and could be evoked if the scenario for HOAEX were drastically changed—if they came as enemies, performed an amazingly destructive demonstration to show unambiguously the powerful capabilities of their superior weapons and then announced that within a very short time limit everyone in a particular metropolitan area of the U.S. would be dealt that same destructive treatment.

Within the doomed area, panic behavior might then become widespread unless extraordinarily skillful leaders took command of the situation, giving impressive reassurances, organizing the evacuation, and mobilizing other protective actions. But that is an entirely different scenario from the one that was given.

So far I have mainly been talking about how people will *not* behave. How will they behave?

Hunger for news. Given the sensational nature of the upcoming televised press conference, the vast majority of people in the U.S. will display news-hungry behavior—many will be glued to the TV set watching for the latest developments. The controversy about authenticity will add to the hunger for news. Even those people who think the whole thing is a hoax will be keenly interested in picking up every scrap of news and comment they can because of uncertainty about who is up to what.

. . . And the more the uncertainties, especially about the possible hidden malignant intentions of the representatives of the superior civilization, the more rumors will spread throughout the nation about secret information that the government's withholding (cf. Allport and Postman, 1947).

He then addresses himself to the question of public behavior:

The main behavioral consequence of all information-seeking and misinformation-spreading will be *absenteeism*. While few workers and clerks will stay home during the day to watch TV, many of them will

engage in mental absenteeism in the factory or office. Large numbers of people will be too busy talking to each other about the news, listening to transistor radios, and reading newspapers to do more than a small fraction of their normal daily work. How long this will last will depend partly on how long the story is kept alive by the mass media and partly on how long the major ambiguities persist. If the whole thing is promptly exposed as a hoax and the perpetrators are identified and their intent made clear, public interest will die. Or if the supply of fresh news quickly becomes exhausted, public interest will soon subside—as in the case of the moon shots. But otherwise for quite a time after the upcoming TV show interest in HOAEX will upstage the impeachment proceedings in the House and the trial in the Senate. Even Nixon's resignation speech on the eve of the Senate vote will receive less attention.

Those who are more uncertain, skeptical, or outright disbelieving, will be unlikely to develop a grassroots, anti-governmental mass movement so long as there is no clear-cut threat or deprivation to mobilize collective action (see Milgram and Toch, 1969; Smelser, 1963). Nevertheless, there will be some preestablished small groups that will be mobilized for action—proselytizing, making propaganda for their cause, organizing demonstrations, etc.

First, there are the religious doomsday cults that thrive on flying saucers and little blue or green humanoids. All the publicity about their "thing," on which they practically held a monopoly until the upcoming TV show, will mobilize them to become much more active in making statements to the press;

some will predict that the HOAEX civilization will destroy the earth next Tuesday. When their prophecies fail, some of these groups will react the way the doomsday group studied by Festinger, Riecken, and Schachter (1956) did—markedly increasing their proselytizing behavior. Other such groups, however, may limit themselves to a "joyous reunion" when their prophecies fail, as did the members of the "Church of the True World" studied by Hardyk and Braden (1962).

The proselytizing activity of some of the doomsday groups will be matched and possibly exceeded by that of religious youth groups, like the Jesus freaks, who will treat the HOAEX story as a long-awaited sign that superhuman forces are at work in the universe. Many of the people who were impressed by the *Chariots of the Gods* (the book and the movie) and who are longing for an out-of-this-world hero like the *Stranger in a Strange Land* will rally to the cause of the blue humanoids and endow them with superhuman lovingkindness and messianic qualities. Support for the messianic religious movement—in the form of joining the group, participating in religious ceremonies, etc.—will be greatly increased insofar as the authenticity of the HOAEX is attested to by reputable scientists and political leaders. (A messianic movement in Europe several centuries ago was given just such impetus when leading authorities of the time endorsed the authenticity of the messiah, as described by G. Scholem of *Sabbati Sevi*.) But the messianic movement may be limited in its appeal, attracting mainly those already predisposed to religious fringe movements. It will have more widespread appeal if

the HOAEX encourage it, directly or indirectly, by claiming that they will help earth people to save themselves from the evils that beset mankind. In this case, a much more popular messianic religious movement is to be expected, especially if it is endorsed by prestigious national leaders.

If the dissimilarities between the HOAEX and us are stressed in the mass media, and if the visitors continue to be kept in isolation, and if there are no promises of interaction between mankind and other representatives of the HOAEX civilization, then the more hostile type of fringe-group movements will be aided in recruiting more participants.

These groups are generally made up of people who have seen better days and who chronically project evil intentions to out-groups; many of the members seem to be addicted to patriotic fervor, directed against enemies from within and from without, because it provides them with compensatory feelings of restoring their lost status (Bell, 1963; Elm, 1972; Hofstadter, 1963 and 1965; Lipset, 1963). As long as the mass media continue to emphasize the main message of the upcoming TV press conference—that the HOAEX are benign, friendly, and cooperative—the Blue Menace movement is not likely to become anything more than a slightly expanded fringe movement.

. . . Suppose that a week or so after that show, they happen to mention in a TV interview that their mission is to prepare earth for the arrival of HOAEX colonizers who will naturally use their superior abilities and knowledge to run things here. Or perhaps that they have waited for all the USAF publicity to

give them the maximum credibility they need to deliver an ultimatum, based say on the assumption vividly conveyed in Leo Szilard's story "Calling All Planets," namely, that earthlings have become dangerous to civilizations on other planets because mankind has nuclear weapons and is now achieving the capability of launching them to targets in outer space, but is unable to curb its destructive impulses.

In order to counteract the menace to all higher forms of life throughout the universe, an appropriate ultimatum to the U.S., the S.U. and all other members of the nuclear club might be to dismantle all factories that manufacture atomic weapons and to destroy all cyclotrons and other equipment essential for maintaining or developing nuclear capabilities. In that case, as I mentioned earlier, the problem of panic would loom large (depending on whether the threatened destructive blow for failing to live up to the ultimatum was completely credible and whether the deadline was imminent).

In general, under conditions of extreme threat, the need for affiliation and for reliance on powerful leaders becomes very strong (Collins and Helmreich, 1970; Gerard and Rabbie, 1961; Hamblin, 1958; Janis, 1958 and 1962; Latane, 1966; Radloff and Helmreich, 1968; Rabbie, 1961 and 1964; Schachter, 1959; Wrightsman, 1969). At the same time, many people will want to link up with the S.U. and other former enemies to cope with the common predicament (cf. Elms, 1972; Sherif, 1966). As Elms points out, some social scientists have suggested "that what we really need is an enemy invader from outer space; *then* we would unite as one species to drive the

invader away, and live in peace thereafter." But we sure can't count on it. If the S.U. doesn't believe the authenticity of the ultimatum transmitted to the USAF and thinks HOAEX is a hoax, we are in for real trouble—maybe World War III.

20. SPACE PROBES FROM EARTH

How improbable is it that we could have been contacted or will be contacted by another intelligent civilization from a far corner of our universe? To get a perspective, all we have to do is look at the plans and primary motives of our own NASA space program.

The exploration of other planets has already begun—by us.

Although NASA takes no official position on the sightings of UFOs and their possible explanations, they are nevertheless extremely interested in the idea of extraterrestrial life. In fact, "It is one of the major thrusts of our program . . . the search for life on other planets," to quote a NASA spokesman.

Their recent Mars exploration program is for just that reason: The hope that they may find life there. "With our Mariner IX, we took a big step forward—operating in Mars orbit and sending back detailed photographs of most of that planet. With the help of these fine photographs, the sites for the Viking landings on Mars in 1976 have been selected. There are two of the Vikings scheduled to land on Mars—and among other things, to search for life there.

"Of course, in our planetary program, we also have

Pioneer XI en route to Jupiter and possibly Saturn; this will be some time in 1977—this is our last approved mission. And in 1978, hopefully we can plan two Pioneer spacecraft to explore Venus. One of the Pioneer Venus spacecraft will send four probes into the Venus atmosphere at different points."

After that, according to tentative plans, NASA may launch as many as ten Mariner and Pioneer spacecraft to the outer planets in the 1980s, including flybys of Uranus and Neptune, probes into the atmosphere of Jupiter, Uranus, and Saturn, and orbiters of Jupiter and Saturn.

"Our tentative plans, also for 1983, will include sending two spacecraft to orbit Venus at a low altitude of 270 miles and then map the surface by radar. We hope to plant a spacecraft in the Venus atmosphere and then land a TV camera and other instruments on the surface by 1989."

That's just a quick outline of some of NASA's plans—but you have to realize that planetary exploration takes patience. It cannot be done in one big push like the Apollo program. We have to move step by step, decade by decade. But even so, a great deal will be learned and many exciting voyages made by the time we are ready for manned missions to the distant planets.

"The Viking landings on Mars should have a stimulating effect on public interest in astronautics. This will be especially true if evidence of life is found on Mars—or evidence of the feasibility of our colonizing Mars," concluded a NASA spokesman.

To take an objective view for a moment, let's consider what the planet earth's scientific community, like NASA, is doing. We are probing other planets' atmospheres now, landing men on their surfaces, bringing back samples,

measuring, mapping, plotting future landing sites. Now for a moment, let's project into the future to that time frame when NASA has reached the surface of the planet Venus:

At Houston Control Center all systems are go. The moment has arrived. The craft has touched down and we are preparing to take samples from quadrant 48, section 3, which we have named "Valles Pioneeri." At that time, two local humanoids watch the event from several hundred meters away. One looks up and notices an odd-shaped vehicle, a spidery-legged object spouting blue-white flames, descending to the surface of their valley. The two observers watch, almost spellbound, as a mechanical door opens and a criss-cross, metallic arm-like apparatus, interwoven with colored tubing and wires, reaches out slowly, mechanically, and scoops up some bits of dirt, rock, and debris. They watch—in wonder—considering whether to report such an incident to others or officials: would they be ridiculed? Did they see what their sensors told them? How could it be possible for an object like that to land?

"After all," they reason, "that kind of vehicle hasn't been used by us for over nine hundred years."

"I didn't know that those things would still run anymore," one thinks to itself, and decides not to bother but just to enjoy the nice sunny day instead.

21. THE FUTURE—SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

We are living in an age of unparalleled technological advances. Within seventy years of achieving flight, man has already begun an exploration of space—and that's just one area of achievement.

But no matter how great any achievement, all inventions and discoveries have one simple, common beginning: they all start with man, and his natural curiosity—about the world, its phenomena, its elements, and how to capture and put them to work.

We now have a new challenge, perhaps the most monumental in recorded history: the opportunity to investigate a phenomenon that could change our destiny.

Through the study and understanding of the UFO phenomenon, we may discover a new energy force and how to use it. Or it could lead us to an understanding of our relationship to life throughout the universe. If there are beings from distant, advanced societies, we may be privileged to a revelation: a look at ourselves, as we might become a thousand years in the future. On the other hand, after further investigation, the UFO phenomenon may be found to be just a will-o'-the-wisp—which, by the way, originally meant burning swamp gas—with no more spin-off benefit to society than a study of the rainbow.

But until the answer is found, the challenge remains. The

momentum toward finding answers has begun—for a most significant and historical meeting has, quietly and without publicity, taken place.

Scientific curiosity has already led to the first international conference on extraterrestrial civilizations and the problems of contact with them. The event was held in September of 1971, in Soviet Armenia. The conference was jointly organized by members, not of private UFO organizations—or left-over critics of the Air Force—but of the highly respected US National Academy of Sciences and the USSR Academy of Sciences, with scientists from several other nations participating. The scientists present were specialists in astronomy, physics, computer sciences and technology, chemistry, biology, archaeology, sociology, and other related fields.

The subjects of discussion focused on the origin of life on Earth, the origin and evolution of intelligence, and particularly the possibilities of life on other cosmic bodies and the problems of searching for, and possible consequences of establishing contact with these extraterrestrial civilizations.

The participants unanimously concluded that "for the first time in human history it has become technologically possible to make serious investigations of this mystery—the results of which may prove to be of profound significance for the future development of mankind." It was agreed that this investigation would require considerable time, effort, and funds, and the program should be established on an international cooperative basis.

The conference participants apparently differed on the finer details, but finally did agree that the potential rewards that would result from contacting extraterrestrial civilizations were great enough to justify future study. The

scientists then agreed on ten points and signed their names to this most interesting document. The points of agreement were:

1. The striking discoveries of recent years in the fields of astronomy, biology, computer science, and radiophysics have transferred some of the problems of extraterrestrial civilizations and their detection from the realm of speculation to a new realm of experiment and observation. For the first time in human history it has become possible to make serious and detailed experimental investigations of this fundamental and important problem.

2. This problem may prove to be of profound significance for the future development of mankind. If extraterrestrial civilizations are ever discovered, the effect on human scientific and technological capabilities will be immense, and the discovery can positively influence the whole future of man. The practical and philosophical significance of a successful contact with an extraterrestrial civilization would be so enormous as to justify the expenditure of substantial efforts. The consequences of such a discovery would greatly add to the total of human knowledge.

3. The technological and scientific resources of our planet are already large enough to permit us to begin investigations directed towards the search for extraterrestrial intelligence. As a rule, such studies should provide important scientific results even when specific searches for extraterrestrial intelligence do not succeed. At present these investigations can be carried out effectively in the various countries by their own scientific institutions. Even at this early stage, however, it would be useful to discuss and coordinate

specific programs of research and to exchange scientific information. In the future it would be desirable to combine the efforts of investigators in various countries to achieve the experimental and observational objectives. It seems to us appropriate that the search for extraterrestrial intelligence should be made by representatives of the whole of mankind.

4. Various modes of search for extraterrestrial intelligence were discussed in detail at the conference. The realization of the most elaborate of these proposals would require considerable time and effort and an expenditure of funds comparable to the funds devoted to space and nuclear research. Useful searches can, however, also be initiated at a very modest scale.

5. The Conference participants consider highly valuable present and forthcoming space-vehicle experiments directed toward searching for life on the other planets of our solar system. They recommend the continuation and strengthening of work in such areas as prebiological organic chemistry, searches for extrasolar planetary systems, and evolutionary biology, which bear sharply on the problem.

6. The Conference recommends the initiation of specific new investigations directed towards modes of search for signals. A list of some possible investigations is appended.

7. To coordinate national programs of research and to promote new progress in this field, the Conference suggests the establishment by appropriate means of an international working group. For the time being, the following interim working group is proposed: F. Drake, U.S.A.; N. S. Kardashev, U.S.S.R.; P. Morrison, U.S.A.; I. S. Shklovsky, U.S.S.R.; G. M. Tovmasyan, U.S.S.R.; and V. S. Troitsky, U.S.S.R.

8. The Conference participants urge the full and open publication of research results on these problems, and as a step in this direction plan simultaneous publication in Russian and in English of the Proceedings of the present Conference.

9. The interim working group is instructed to consider, when necessary, convening broadly based or more specialized meetings of scientists working on CETI.

10. The Conference participants express their warm appreciation for the splendid hospitality extended to them by the Armenian Academy of Sciences.

(signed) The Organizing Committees of the U.S. and U.S.S.R. delegations, for the Conference participants.

The United States Air Force had the responsibility for investigating the UFO phenomena for twenty-two years. Through their studies they proved to the interested government bodies that this phenomenon wasn't, apparently, a threat to our national security.

Now we should move forward to study the phenomenon itself under the leadership of a reputable organization, perhaps like the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, cooperating with the National Academy of Sciences.

There are men now available with great experience in this field, such as Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who has been a key founder of an organization, the Center for UFO Studies, that has already begun to attract a growing number of respected and interested American scientists.

The immediate future looks promising. With great anticipation I personally wait for answers, for I feel we are

near to some remarkable and fantastic revelations about man, who he is, and where he may have come from—answers to questions that have puzzled philosophers throughout history.

Paralleling the interest in the search for extraterrestrial life is also the growing interest in psychic phenomena. Study in this field has already revealed some interesting and yet mystifying information about man and his potential for telepathic communication, clairvoyance, and telekinesis, the ability to influence and move objects using only man's psychic energy. Perhaps further study in psychic phenomena and the UFO phenomenon will prove to be interrelated, meeting at one point in man's future development—a time in the future when enlightened man, through the use of his psychic energies, becomes able to harness the cosmic energies to travel through space at the speed of thought. When this future point is reached, man may find the answers to the questions religion has been able only to speculate about.

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR PART III

Most of the references will be found in:

Lindzey, G., and Aronson, E. (Editors). *Handbook of Social Psychology,* Volumes 3 and 4. Addison-Wesley, 1968-9.

If not there, look for the references in the following two books:

Jones, E.E., and Gerard, H. *Foundations of Social Psychology.* Wiley, 1967.

Elms, A.C. *Social Psychology and Social Relevance*. Little, Brown, 1972.

APPENDICES

A. THE "EYES" THAT WATCH THE SKY

It has often been said that, with the extensive aerial surveillance our military carries on, it would be impossible *not* to pick up some unidentified aerial phenomena. But it is not likely, for a simple reason—the system is not designed to pick up what we call UFOs.

These military systems are the most technologically advanced systems yet devised and there must, of necessity be a limit to what information they will report and record. A line must be drawn, or the system would pick up every fly, bird, baseball, and other clutter in the sky.

By use of The Phased Array Radar facilities the system maintains a catalogue on all objects in space and maintains constant surveillance on satellites of all nations. However, this sytem will maintain surveillance only on objects that are outside the atmosphere and that exhibit velocities and dynamics strictly associated with manmade missiles and satellites. Selectivity is the key.

For example, the system will not report a meteor entering the Earth's atmosphere, but will report a satellite entering our atmosphere. One reason for the phased array's selectivity is to insure that the system will always be prepared to provide information as it relates to a military threat and, if a threat is present, evaluate the characteristics of the threat. The North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) can

determine just about everything about the craft except what's inside it. Information picked up by a given NORAD instrumentation site is transmitted instantly and automatically by computer via microwave to points where preliminary evaluation of the data can take place. The data is then transmitted to the NORAD complex in Cheyenne Mountain near Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Optical tracking and precision surveying of our skies is accomplished by means of a system called the Electro-Optical Surveillance Tracking System, part of the world-wide NORAD sensor net. This system takes pictures of man-made objects in space that can be measured in order to provide accurate data. However, the mission of these optical trackers is not to look for objects other than those that it is programmed to observe, e.g., those satellites that are accomplishing predetermined missions (primarily communications and navigation satellites). Therefore, unless we know precisely where to have these optical systems look it would be useless to simply wait for and hope to photograph an unidentified flying object. There are many instrument facilities, ranging from radar and radio telescopes to photo-telemetry, film surveys of our skies, and a network of cameras that keep watch for meteors.

If we are to obtain hard and useful data on the UFO phenomenon, then we must re-program the built-in discrimination of our sensor instruments. Such a modification would not necessarily be costly, but it would involve a rather bold and possibly radical change in our approach to space surveillance.

B. WHAT AIR FORCE ACADEMY CADETS ARE TAUGHT ABOUT UFOs

There is a story about the old man who in his last fading days converted to Catholicism. Up until that time he had been an atheist. When asked what changed his mind, why he became a Catholic, he answered that he considered it practical: "If I die, what happens if they were right, that only Catholics go to heaven? I figured it couldn't hurt to cover all bases."

Although the Air Force would never outwardly acknowledge UFOs as anything other than misidentifications and such, the Air Force Academy does include, in the cadets' studies, the subject of UFOs. Here are some selected paragraphs from the textbook:

Hypotheses to Explain UFOs

Approximately 6% of the UFO reports collected by Project Blue Book are officially listed as "unexplained." If we propose to "explain" these remaining cases we must first set up a list of possible explanations. There is always the danger in this procedure that the true explanation for a particular event is not contained in the given set of *a priori* hypotheses. With this note of caution before us, we adopt a set of hypotheses proposed by Dr. James McDonald of the University of Arizona:

1. Hoaxes, fabrications, and frauds.
2. Hallucinations, mass hysteria, rumor phenomena.
3. Advanced terrestrial technologies.
4. Lay misinterpretation of well-understood physical phenomena.
5. Poorly understood physical phenomena.
6. Poorly understood psychological phenomena.
7. Extraterrestrial visitation.
8. Messengers of salvation and occult truth.

Let us examine each of these in light of the data collected over the past twenty-plus years.

1. Hoaxes, fabrications, and frauds. There is no question that some UFO reports are hoaxes, fabrications, and frauds perpetrated by persons playing pranks with candles in plastic cleaning bags, persons faking photographs, persons seeking notoriety or recognition, and practical jokers. The UFO literature is replete with examples of all types. However, *confirmed hoaxes are only a small percentage of the total number of UFO reports. Most reports are by reliable witnesses and show no evidence of fabrication or fraud.*

2. Hallucinations, mass hysteria, rumor phenomena. There is evidence that UFO reports occur in waves and that a rash of sightings in a localized area may be due to increased public sensitivity to an initial report. Some reports received at these times may indeed be inspired by the increased attention to UFOs and not true sightings at all. However, the large number of multi-observer reports from independent observers, and reports from military personnel, airline pilots, policemen, scientists, and other qualified witnesses *makes it unlikely that many UFO reports*

are the results of hallucinations, mass hysteria, and rumor phenomena. Psychologists and sociologists are unable to estimate what portion of UFO reports may be due to such causes, but analysis of the credentials of witnesses in most reports could indicate that the number must be small.

3. Advanced terrestrial technologies (e.g., test vehicles, satellites, re-entry phenomena, secret weapons). The noted space scientist Arthur C. Clarke has observed that any sufficiently advanced technology will appear indistinguishable from magic. Thus advanced terrestrial technologies are certainly the cause of some reports. The reported characteristics of UFOs do not appear to have changed markedly over the years, while man has made great technological progress. Thus while some current UFO reports may be attributable to space vehicle re-entries or satellite launches, the reports in the late forties and early fifties cannot be attributed to these causes. Similarly, advanced weapon systems in the development and test stages (secret weapons) now would give rise to a different type of UFO report from those of earlier eras. *The variety and worldwide distribution of UFO reports make it unlikely that the reports are due to sightings of products of an advanced terrestrial technology.*

4. Lay misinterpretations of well-understood physcial phenomena (e.g. meteorological, astronomical, optical). From our definition of UFOs *it is obvious that a large number of reports will fall in this category.* Misidentification of aircraft landing lights, blinking and flashing lights during aerial refueling operations, weather balloons, meteors, movements of the planets Venus and Jupiter, searchlight reflections

on low cloud ceilings, and lens flares in photographs are a few possibilities. The reader can undoubtedly suggest others and find still more in the UFO literature. In his article, "The Physics and Metaphysics of Unidentified Flying Objects," Dr. William Markowitz discusses the UFO problem in light of the currently accepted physical laws. In particular, he considers the following five basic laws:

a. Every action must have an equal and opposite reaction.
b. Every particle in the universe attracts every other particle with a force proportional to the product of their masses and inversely as the square of the distance between them.
c. Momentum and mass-energy are conserved.
d. No material body can travel at *c*, the speed of light in free space.
e. The maximum energy which can be obtained from a body at rest is governed by Einstein's famous equation, $E = mc^2$.

To date these laws have enabled physicists to predict and control many phenomena for practical purposes. They can also be valuable in analyzing UFO reports. *The details in most UFO reports do not cause any conflict with these laws and lead us to conclude that UFOs may well just be misidentified ordinary phenomena. However, some reports seem at variance with one or more of these laws, leading us to question either the reliability of the UFO reports or the reliability of our physical laws.* Since our physical laws are more firmly established both in theory and by experiment, the validity of the physical law is usually a more acceptable alternative to the scientist. *We must realize, however, that any physical law may be subject to change with the discovery of new evidence.*

5. Poorly understood physical phenomena (e.g. rare atmospheric-electrical effects, cloud phenomena, plasmas of natural or technological origin). *Attempting to explain UFO reports by some poorly understood phenomenon is risky at best, and probably is impossible until the phenomenon is better understood.* Lenticular clouds as explanations for certain UFO reports may be on firm grounds, but attempts to explain UFOs in terms of mirages, ball lightning (a sphere-shaped plasma blob usually associated with electrical storms), atmospheric inversion layers, or anomalous propagation of radar signals are much less tenable. *Some UFO reports may be explainable by these phenomena, but it is impossible to make positive identifications based on our present limited understanding of the phenomena. Consequently, all such explanations should be considered only tentative. There may be still other atmospheric phenomena which are observed so rarely that they remain uninvestigated and unnamed.*

6. Poorly understood psychological phenomena. Psychologists are the first to admit that there are many aspects of psychic phenomena that have not been adequately explored. Few data are available to determine how these phenomena may relate to the UFO problem, but *we must at least allow for the possibility that there may be some effects.*

7. Extraterrestrial visitation. Dr. Condon states in the summary of *Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects* that convincing and unequivocal evidence of extraterrestrial visitation would be the greatest single scientific discovery in the history of mankind. While that may be a slight exaggeration, it at least points out why this hypothesis adds so much excitement and

controversy to the UFO problem. Despite numerous UFO reports concerning purported space vehicles and alien visitors, there remains doubt as to the veracity of these reports. Such reports do, however, contain a number of strange elements that are verifiable. One would prefer hard evidence in the form of a tail fin, a jettisoned propulsion unit, a crashed UFO, several good photographs, etc. Such physical evidence does not seem to exist, despite stories to the contrary. Several scientists have concluded that *a priori* probability of extraterrestrial visitation appears to be exceedingly low in terms of present scientific knowledge. *Although no conclusive proof as to the validity of this hypothesis can be drawn from the evidence at hand,* a panel of the National Academy of Sciences has concluded that on the basis of present knowledge, the least likely explanation of UFOs is the hypothesis of extraterrestrial visitation by intelligent beings.

8. Messengers of salvation and occult truth. Certain cults have adopted the belief that the mission of UFOs is spiritual and that all physical efforts to determine the nature of UFOs must necessarily fail. While such may be the case, evidence to support it is clearly lacking. Further discussion of this hypothesis is beyond the scope of this text.

Conclusion

Having presented the arguments for each of the hypotheses, possible conclusions are now considered. It is apparent that no single hypothesis can account for all UFO reports. Hypotheses 1, 2, 3, and 4 are obviously valid and, as a group, account for a large number of UFO reports. However, the evidence is insufficient to conclude that all UFO reports can be attributed to these causes. Hypothesis 8 is unlikely to

yield to any form of scientific analysis, so we eliminate it from further consideration. Hypotheses 5, 6, and 7 are scientifically the most interesting since they offer the possibility of new knowledge about ourselves and our environment. As indicated above, hypotheses 5 and 6 require additional research on poorly understood phenomena before conclusions can be reached as to their bearing on the UFO problem. *At this time, there appears to be insufficient evidence available to either confirm or refute hypothesis 7.*

C. WHAT DO UFOs LOOK LIKE?

Possibly the most intriguing aspect of the UFO phenomenon is the fact that descriptions of UFOs seem to vary so much. From the descriptions in Air Force records alone, we can begin to correlate shapes and behavior, and construct a profile of this most elusive subject.

If we start by looking at the descriptions given by seven military personnel connected with the Mantell case—the commanding officer, radar men, and the other pilots—we find the size of the UFO described as "tremendous," "100 feet high by 45 feet wide." The same object's shape is given as "a shape like a parachute," "round," "an ice cream cone with a red top," "a cone," "a tear shape." Its speed was greater than that of Mantell's P-51 interceptor.

Some said its construction appeared to be "metallic." One military man, who observed it through an eight-inch telescope, described it this way: "The object is not a balloon, comet, star, aircraft of known type . . . the whole object appeared to be surrounded with burning gas or something that gave a light."

The sightings over Washington, D.C., and Bismarck indicate patterns of erratic up-and-down movement, the ability to hover and then to accelerate to speeds of over

seven thousand miles per hour—and the most unusual characteristic of being able to appear and disappear from the views of observers and radar. The objects displayed colors of white, red, orange, and sometimes a bluish-silver. A pilot's conversation monitored at the time described "a dome shape."

The Chiles and Whitted case gives us yet another configuration—a shape that has often been reported, "a long cigar shape," but with the addition of large windows and a trailing red flame.

The incident in Dexter, Michigan, gives us two sketches for study: The first description is of a football shape, flatter on the bottom, and a blue light in front and an alternating red-and-white light at the back. The object seemed to be wrapped in a halo-like, shimmering glow. The surface appeared to be rough and a "yellow-white hue" ran horizontally through the midsection.

Another version from Dexter, drawn by the sheriff's department from descriptions by a half-dozen deputies and residents, indicates a football shape with a quilted surface, a dome, and a porthole. A Hillsdale woman drew a football-shaped object with this porthole, and she described the craft as being intermittently circled by flashes of red light.

The Levelland, Texas, case tells us of large egg-shaped objects, with a diameter greater than two hundred feet, that glowed and caused car motors and radios to fail when in its presence.

The Socorro case, seen in daylight, contributes another design—a more conventional metallic football shape with landing gear and pads and a red emblem visible on its side.

And last, Major Coyne's drawing gives us more insight—a wingless, cigar-shaped object with red and white lights, capable of hovering silently and sending down a pyramid-shaped green light to search through his copter's cabin.

What Do *They* Look Like?

Now to carry our speculation to its next logical step. If these vehicles come from beyond our earth, then we must assume they are managed by some sort of beings—perhaps similar to us.

From sketchy reports around the world we can begin to construct a hazy portrait of these aliens:

SKIN—ashen, pale, white; perhaps with a thin protective membrane.

EYES—large, far apart, with a wrap-around appearance.

NOSE—indefinite; two small breathing holes.

MOUTH—a slit, or small, or no opening at all.

BEHAVIOR—cautious, curious, firm; ability to paralyze on touch.

SOUNDS—humming; "oohs" in a foreign language or some accent. Buzzing as if electronic, from the head or chest.

WEARING head protection or overall body protection.

And the strangest of all reports—the ability to levitate, to move without touching the ground. (See sketches. . . .)

D. IF YOU SEE A UFO

What would happen if you were to see a UFO? What would you do? How clearly would you recall the event? How well could you describe it—would your observation be detailed enough to provide a convincing and helpful report?

Here are some brief instructions on what to do, and an Observer's Data Sheet designed to help you organize your description of your observation.

Remain calm and objective.
Then:

1. Write down everything that you can observe, or what you remember, if it is a brief sighting.
2. If a camera is available, use it to photograph what you see. Include reference points in your shots so that later the object can be analyzed in the context of its surroundings.
3. Draw a picture of what you see as accurately as possible, again indicating reference points and size relationships.
4. If other witnesses are available, get them to substantiate what you saw by drawing and writing down exactly what they saw.

5. If there is any physical evidence left by the UFO, immediately seal off the area and make note of what was left in evidence. If possible, containerize it to the best of your abilities. The samples you take may be dirt, shrubs, rocks, or any item that may have been affected.
6. If you encounter an extraterrestrial being:
   a. Do not approach the being.
   b. Photograph it, if possible.
   c. Try to keep the subject in sight.
   d. Try to keep out of sight of the subject.
   e. If you are approached, do not fight or act aggressive. All indications point to the fact that past contacts have been friendly.

The following forms are based on the Observer's Data Sheet prepared by the consultants panel to the United States Air Force. They were evaluated by an astronomer, a psychologist, and a CAB investigator, and suggestions were incorporated which include all technical details thought to be essential.

SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENA QUESTIONNAIRE

THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HAS BEEN PREPARED SO THAT YOU CAN HAVE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE CONCERNING THE UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON THAT YOU HAVE OBSERVED. PLEASE TRY TO ANSWER ALL OF THE QUESTIONS.

1. When Did You See The Phenomenon?
   Day_____ Month_____ Year_____

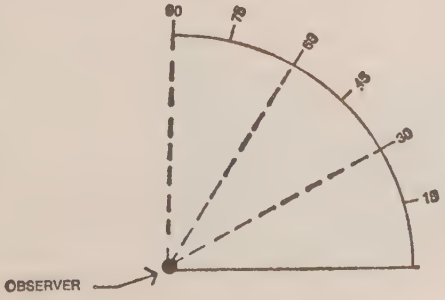
2. What Time Did You First Sight The Phenomenon?
   Hour_____ Minutes_____ ☐ A.M. ☐ P.M.

3. What Time Did You Last Sight The Phenomenon?
   Hour_____ Minutes_____ ☐ A.M. ☐ P.M.

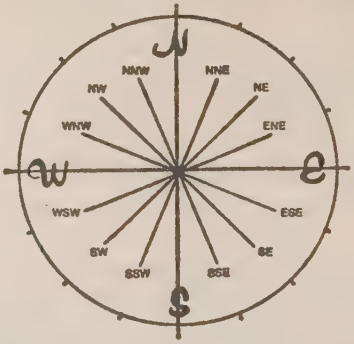
4. Time Zone ☐ Daylight Savings ☐ Standard
   ☐ Eastern ☐ Central ☐ Mountain ☐ Pacific ☐ Other

5. Where Were You When You Saw The Phenomenon? If In City, Give The Nearest Street Address And Indicate On A Hand Drawn Map Where You Were Standing With Reference To The Address. If In The Country, Identify The Highway You Were On Or Near And Try To Fix A Distance And Direction From Some Recognizable Landmark.

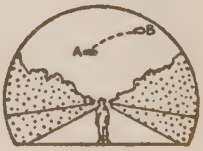
6. Imagine you are at the point shown in the sketch, place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the Phenomenon was above the horizon, or skyline, when first seen. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high above the horizon the Phenomenon was when last seen.



6A. Now Imagine you are at the center of the compass rose. Place an "A" on the compass to indicate the direction to the Phenomenon when first seen. Place a "B" on the compass to indicate the direction to the Phenomenon when last seen.



7. In the sketch below, place an "A" at the position of the Phenomenon when first seen, and a "B" at the position of the Phenomenon when last seen. Connect the "A" and "B" with a line to approximate the movement of the Phenomenon between "A" and "B". That is schematically show whether the movement appeared to be straight, curved or zig-zag. Refer to smaller sketch as an example of how to complete the larger sketch.



8. Where Were You When You Saw The Phenomenon?
(Check appropriate blocks.)

☐	Outdoors	☐	In Business Section Of City
☐	In Building	☐	In Residential Section Of City
☐	In Car ☐ As Driver ☐ As Passenger		
☐	In Boat	☐	In Open Countryside
☐	In Airplane ☐ As Pilot ☐ As Passenger		
☐	Other	☐	Near Airfield
		☐	Flying Over City
		☐	Flying Over Open Country
		☐	Other rural

A. If You Were In A Vehicle, Complete The Following:

In What Direction Were You Moving?				How Fast Were You Moving?
☐	North	☐	East	
☐	South	☐	West	Did You Stop Anytime While Observing The Phenomenon? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐	Northeast	☐	Southeast	
☐	Northwest	☐	Southwest	

Explain whether such movement affects your sketches in items 5 and 6.

Describe type of vehicle you were in and type of road, terrain or body of water you traversed during the sighting. State whether windows or convertible top were up or down.

How much other traffic was there?

Did you notice any airplanes? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If "Yes," describe when they were in sight relative to the time of sighting the Phenomenon and where they were in the sky relative to the position of the Phenomenon.

9. How Long Was The Phenomenon In Sight?

Length Of Time				
	☐	Certain Of Time	☐	Not Very Sure
	☐	Fairly Certain	☐	Just A Guess

How was time determined? By estimation and by looking at the clock as I was going to bed.

Was the Phenomenon in sight continuously? ☐ Yes No. If "No," indicate whether this is due to your movement or the behavior of the Phenomenon, and describe such movement or behavior. Indicate disappearances on previous sketches.

10. If There Were More Than One Phenomenon, How Many Were There? Draw A Picture To Show How They Were Arranged. Did This Arrangement Change During The Sighting?

11. Conditions *(Check appropriate blocks.)*

A. Sky	B. Weather	
☐ Day	☐ Cumulus Clouds *(Low fluffy)*	☐ Fog Or Mist
☐ Twilight	☐ Cirrus Clouds *(High fleecy or Herringbone)*	☐ Heavy Rain
☐ Night		☐ Light Rain Or Drizzle
☐ Clear	☐ Nimbus Clouds *(Rain)*	☐ Hail
☐ Partly Cloudy	☐ Cumulonimbus Clouds *(Thunderstorms)*	☐ Snow Or Sleet
☐ Completely Overcast		☐ Unknown
	☐ Haze Or Smog	☐ None Of The Above

C. If The Sighting Was At Twilight Or Night, What Did You Notice About The Stars And Moon?

(1) Stars	(2) Moon	
☐ None	☐ Bright Moonlight	☐ No Moonlight
☐ A Few	☐ Moon With Halo	☐ Unknown
☐ Many	☐ Moon Hidden By Clouds	
☐ Unknown	☐ Partial *(New or quarter)*	

D. If Sighting Was In Daylight, Was The Sun Visible? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If "Yes," Where Was The Sun As You Faced The Phenomenon?

☐ In Front Of You	☐ To Your Right	☐ Overhead *(Near noon)*
☐ In Back Of You	☐ To Your Left	☐ Unknown

E. Specify the major source of illumination present during the sighting, such as the sun, headlights or street lamp, etc. For terrestrial illumination, specify distance to light source.

12. Give A Brief Description Of The Phenomenon, Indicating Whether It Appeared Dark Or Light, Whether It Reflected Light Or Was Self-Luminous And What Colors You Noticed. Describe Your Impression Of Whether It Was Solid Or Transparent, Whether Edges Were Sharp Or Fuzzy. Describe The Shape Or Indicate If It Appeared As A Point Of Light. Indicate Comparisons With Other Observed Objects, Like Stars, A Light Or Other Object In Your Field Of View.

13. Did The Phenomenon	Yes	No	Unknown
Move In A Straight Line?			
Stand Still At Anytime?			
Suddenly Speed Up And Run Away?			
Break Up In Parts And Explode?			
Change Color?			
Give Off Smoke?			
Change Brightness?			
Change Shape?			
Flash Or Flicker?			
Disappear And Reappear?			
Spin Like A Top?			
Make A Noise?			
Flutter Or Wobble?			

14. What Drew Your Attention To The Phenomenon?

A. How Did It Finally Disappear?

B. Did The Phenomenon Move Behind Or In Front Of Something, Like A Cloud, Tree, Or Building At Any Time? ☐ Yes No. If "Yes," Describe.

15. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the Phenomenon. Include and label any details that might have appeared as wings or protrusions, and indicate exhaust or vapor trails. Indicate by an arrow the direction in which the Phenomenon was moving.

16. What was the angular size? Hold a match at arm's length in front of a known object, such as a street lamp or the moon. Note how much of the object is covered by the head of the match; now if you have been able to perform this experiment at the time of the sighting, estimate what fraction of the Phenomenon would have been covered by the match head.

17. Did You Observe The Phenomenon Through Any Of The Following? Include Information On Model, Type, Filter, Lens Prescription Or Other Applicable Data.

☐	Eyeglasses	☐	Camera Viewer
☐	Sunglasses	☐	Binoculars
☐	Windshield	☐	Telepscope
☐	Side Window Of Vehicle	☐	Theodolite
☐	Windowpane	☐	Other

A. Do You Ordinarily Wear Glasses? ☐ Yes ☐ No

B. Do You Use Reading Glasses? ☐ Yes ☐ No

18. What Was Your Impression Of The Speed Of The Phenomenon? Give Estimate Of Speed _____

19. What Was Your Impression Of The Distance Of The Phenomenon? Give Estimate Of Distance _____

20. In order that we may obtain as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed in the sky, similar to where you noted the Phenomenon, would bear some resemblance to what you saw. Describe similarities and differences between the common object and what you saw.

21. Did You Notice Any Odor, Noise, Or Heat Emanating From The Phenomenon Or Any Effect On Yourself, Animals Or Machinery In The Vicinity? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If "Yes," Describe.

A. Did The Phenomenon Disturb The Ground Or Leave Any Physical Evidence? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If "Yes," Describe.

22. Have You Ever Seen This Or A Similar Phenomenon Before? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If "Yes," Give Date And Location.

23. Was Anyone With You At The Time You Saw The Phenomenon? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If "Yes," Did They See It Too? ☐ Yes ☐ No.

A. List their names and addresses

24. Give The Following Information about yourself

Last Name, First Name, Middle Name

Address *(Street, City, State and Zip Code)*

Telephone *(Area code and number)*

Age		Male		Female

Indicate additional information including occupation and any experience which may be pertinent.

25. When And To Whom Did You Report That You Had Sighted This Phenomenon?
Name_____ Day_____ Month_____ Year_____

26. Date You Completed This Questionnaire.
Day_____ Month_____ Year_____

27. Give information which you feel is pertinent but which is not adequately covered in this questionnaire (alternatively provide a narrative of the sighting.)

By the year 2000, 2 out of 3 Americans could be illiterate.

It's true.

Today, 75 million adults...about one American in three, can't read adequately. And by the year 2000, U.S. News & World Report envisions an America with a literacy rate of only 30%.

Before that America comes to be, you can stop it...by joining the fight against illiteracy today.

Call the Coalition for Literacy at toll-free **1-800-228-8813** and volunteer.

Volunteer
Against Illiteracy.
The only degree you need is a degree of caring.

Coalition for Literacy

LV-2

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from the preface by Robert Emenegger

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WHERE ARE THESE OBJECTS COMING FROM?
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